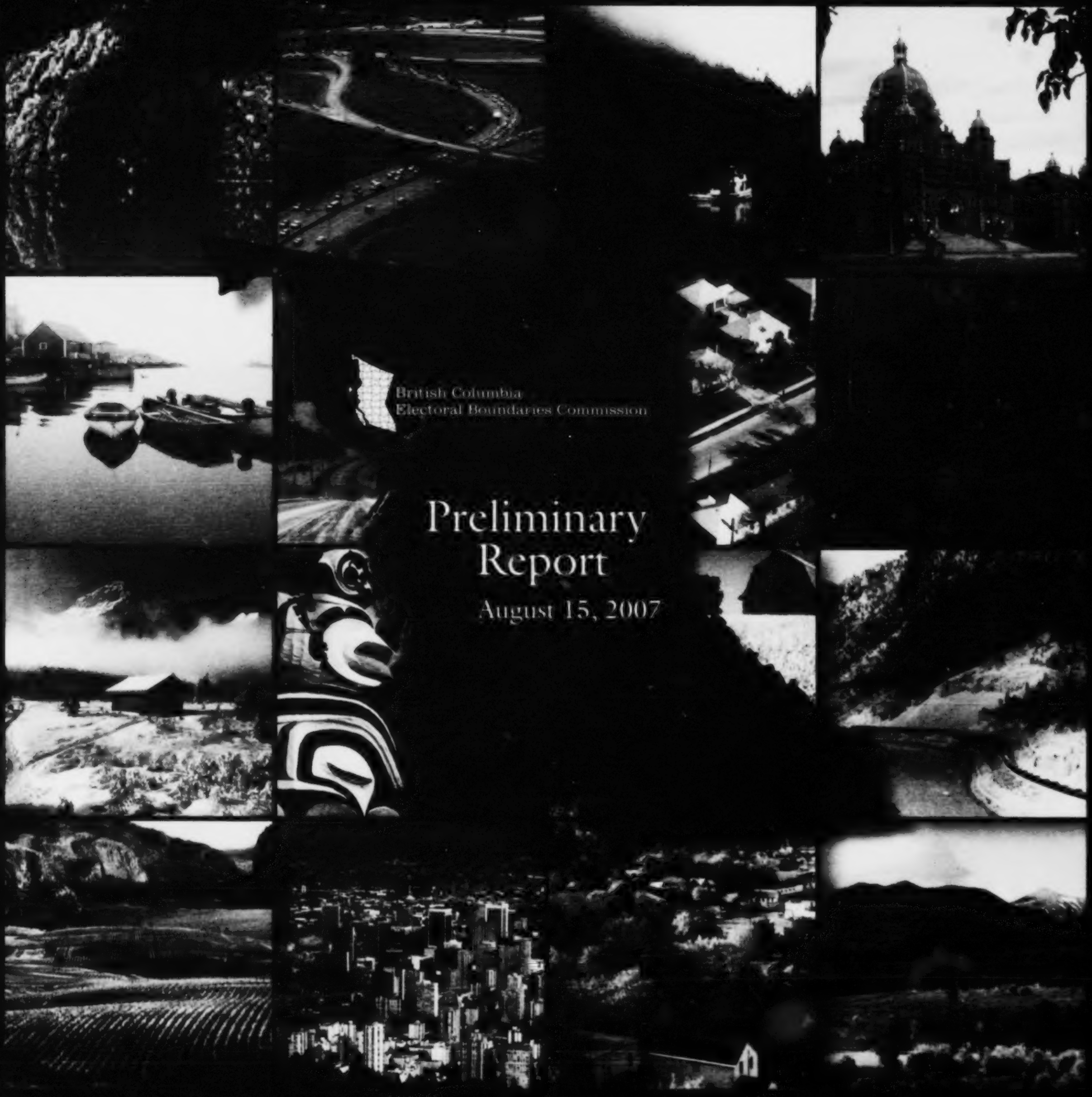
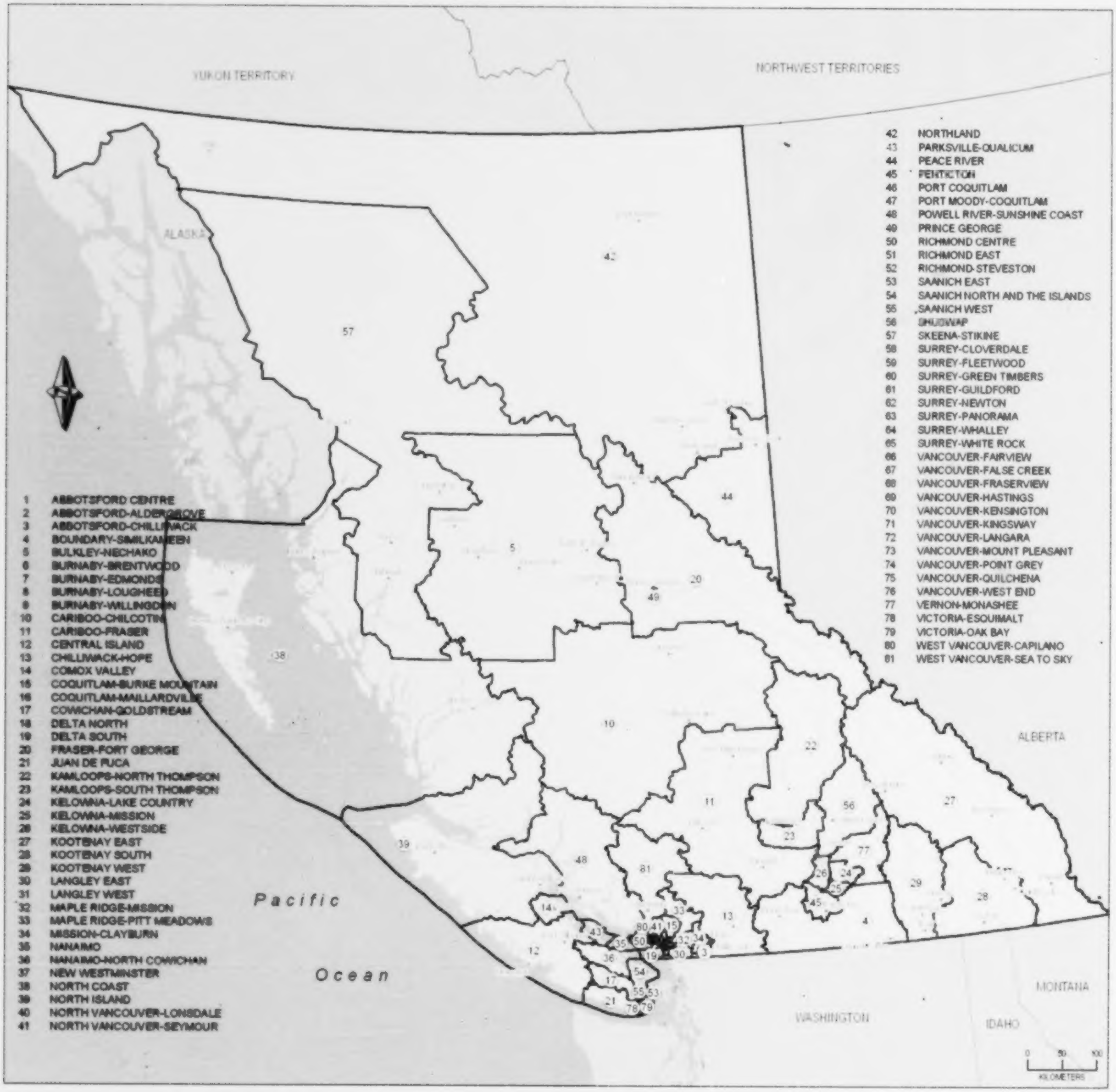


British Columbia
Electoral Boundaries Commission

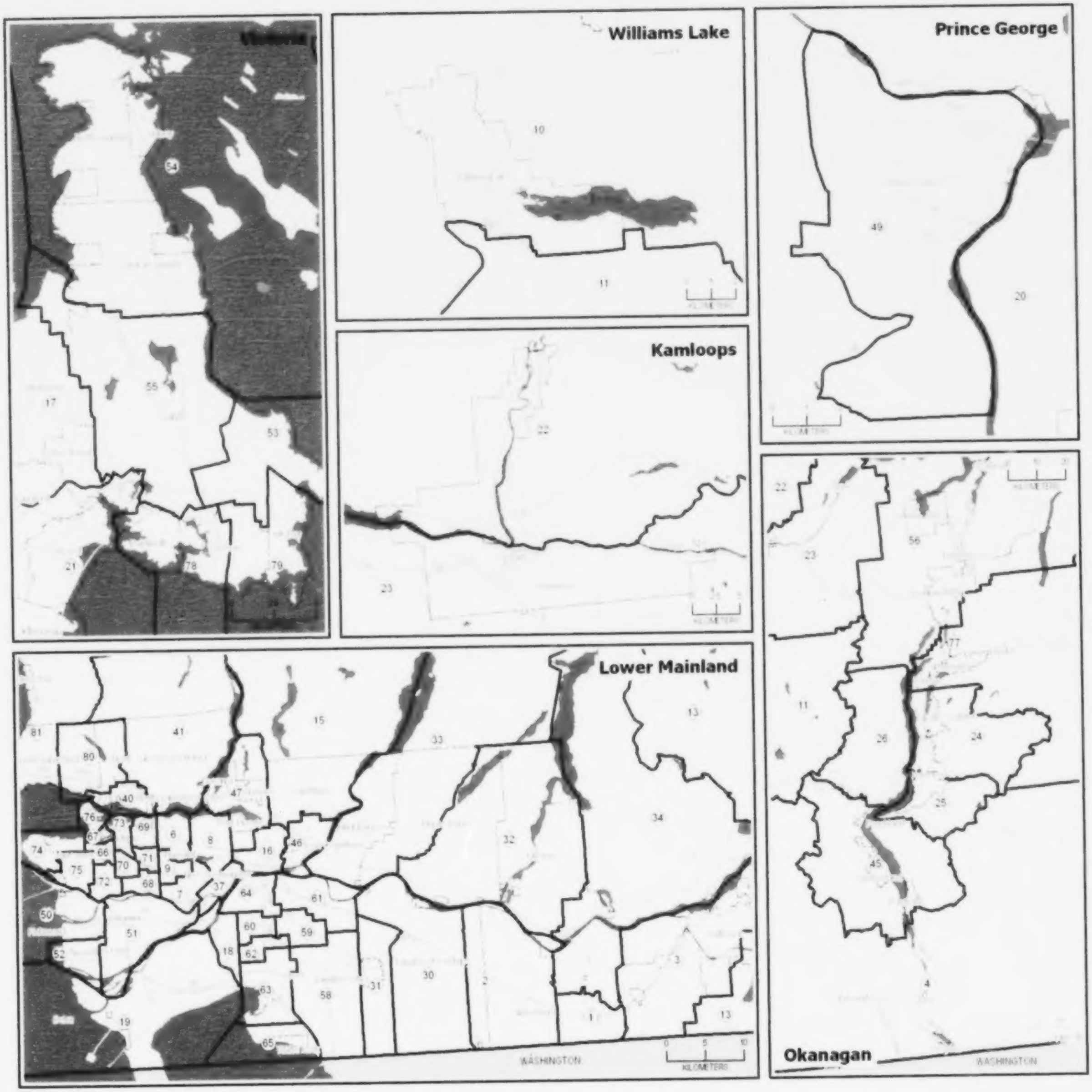
Preliminary Report

August 15, 2007

Proposed SMP Boundaries


YUKON TERRITORY
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
ALASKA
ALBERTA
MONTANA
IDAHO
WASHINGTON
Pacific
Ocean
1 ABBOTSFORD CENTRE
2 ABBOTSFORD-ALDERGROVE
3 ABBOTSFORD-CHILLIWACK
4 BOUNDARY-SIMILKAMEEN
5 BULKLEY-NECHAKO
6 BURNABY-BRENTWOOD
7 BURNABY-EDMONDS
8 BURNABY-LOUGHEED
9 BURNABY-WILLINGDON
10 CARIBOO-CHILCOTIN
11 CARIBOO-FRASER
12 CENTRAL ISLAND
13 CHILLIWACK-HOPE
14 COMOX VALLEY
15 COQUITLAM-BURKE MOUNTAIN
16 COQUITLAM-MAILLARDVILLE
17 COWICHAN-GOLDSTREAM
18 DELTA NORTH
19 DELTA SOUTH
20 FRASER-FORT GEORGE
21 JUAN DE FUCA
22 KAMLOOPS-NORTH THOMPSON
23 KAMLOOPS-SOUTH THOMPSON
24 KELOWNA-LAKE COUNTRY
25 KELOWNA-MISSION
26 KELOWNA-WESTSIDE
27 KOOTENAY EAST
28 KOOTENAY SOUTH
29 KOOTENAY WEST
30 LANGLEY EAST
31 LANGLEY WEST
32 MAPLE RIDGE-MISSION
33 MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS
34 MISSION-CLAYBURN
35 NANAIMO
36 NANAIMO-NORTH COWICHAN
37 NEW WESTMINSTER
38 NORTH COAST
39 NORTH ISLAND
40 NORTH VANCOUVER-LONSDALE
41 NORTH VANCOUVER-SEYMOUR
42 NORTHLAND
43 PARKSVILLE-QUALICUM
44 PEACE RIVER
45 PENTICTON
46 PORT COQUITLAM
47 PORT MOODY-COQUITLAM
48 POWELL RIVER-SUNSHINE COAST
49 PRINCE GEORGE
50 RICHMOND CENTRE
51 RICHMOND EAST
52 RICHMOND-STEVESTON
53 SAANICH EAST
54 SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS
55 SAANICH WEST
56 SHUSWAP
57 SKEENA-STIKINE
58 SURREY-CLOVERDALE
59 SURREY-FLEETWOOD
60 SURREY-GREEN TIMBERS
61 SURREY-GUILDFORD
62 SURREY-NEWTON
63 SURREY-PANORAMA
64 SURREY-WHALLEY
65 SURREY-WHITE ROCK
66 VANCOUVER-FAIRVIEW
67 VANCOUVER-FALSE CREEK
68 VANCOUVER-FRASERVIEW
69 VANCOUVER-HASTINGS
70 VANCOUVER-KENSINGTON
71 VANCOUVER-KINGSWAY
72 VANCOUVER-LANGARA
73 VANCOUVER-MOUNT PLEASANT
74 VANCOUVER-POINT GREY
75 VANCOUVER-QUILCHENA
76 VANCOUVER-WEST END
77 VERNON-MONASHEE
78 VICTORIA-ESQUIMALT
79 VICTORIA-OAK BAY
80 WEST VANCOUVER-CAPILANO
81 WEST VANCOUVER-SEA TO SKY
0 50 100
KILOMETERS

Proposed SMP Boundaries


Victoria
54
55
17
53
21
78
79
Williams Lake
10
11
KILOMETERS
Prince George
49
20
KILOMETERS
Kamloops
22
23
KILOMETERS
Lower Mainland
81
80
41
15
33
13
47
40
76
73
69
6
8
16
46
34
32
67
74
66
75
70
71
9
72
68
7
37
64
61
50
51
60
59
52
18
62
30
31
58
63
19
3
1
2
13
65
WASHINGTON
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
22
23
56
KILOMETERS
77
11
26
24
25
45
4
Okanagan
WASHINGTON

2008-03555/

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Electoral Boundaries Commission

PRELIMINARY REPORT

August 15, 2007

COVER PHOTO LISTING

Top row – left to right
Kinney Lake, Mount Robson Provincial Park, B.C.
Richmond, B.C.
Coastal B.C.
Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C.

Second row – left to right
Coastal B.C.
Coquihalla Highway, B.C.
Unknown neighbourhood
Saanich Inlet, Vancouver Island, B.C.

Third row – left to right
Mount Assiniboine Lodge, B.C.
Stanley Park, Vancouver, B.C.
Dawson Creek, B.C.
Along the Fraser River, B.C.

Bottom row – left to right
Vaseux Lake, B.C.
Vancouver, B.C.
Nelson, B.C.
Unknown B.C. valley

Vaseux Lake photo: Gunter Marx Stock Photos

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data
British Columbia. Electoral Boundaries Commission.
Preliminary report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

ISBN 0-7726-5632-0
ISBN 978-0-7726-5632-2

1. British Columbia. Legislative Assembly – Election Districts – Planning. 2. British Columbia. Electoral Boundaries Commission. 3. Election districts – British Columbia – Planning. 4. Election districts – British Columbia. 5. Redistribution (Election law) – British Columbia. I. Title. II. Title: Electoral Boundaries Commission preliminary report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

JL433.B74 2007   328.711'07345   C2006-960186-0

© 2007
British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission

British Columbia
Electoral Boundaries Commission

August 15, 2007

The Honourable Bill Barisoff
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
Room 207
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 1X4

Honourable Speaker:

Preliminary Report of the British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission

We are pleased to submit our Preliminary Report, as required by section 10(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 107, as amended by section 4(3)(a) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005*, S.B.C. 2005, c. 30.

Yours very truly,

Bruce Cohen

The Hon. Mr. Justice Bruce I. Cohen
Commission Chair

Stewart Ladyman
Commissioner

Harry Neufeld
Chief Electoral Officer for British Columbia
Commissioner

Table of contents

Letter of transmittal

1 PART 1 – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1

A. Introduction *10*
- 1. The Electoral Boundaries Commission's task 10
- 2. A new commission after every second provincial election 11
- 3. The dual mandate 11
  - a. The current electoral system 11
  - b. The proposed BC-STV electoral system 12
- 4. The purpose of this Preliminary Report 13

B. The Commission *13*
- 1. Our team 13
  - a. The commissioners 13
  - b. Staff 14
  - c. Counsel 14
  - d. External technical staff 14
- 2. Our activities 15
- 3. Our consultations with the public 16
  - a. Process 16
  - b. Where we went 17
  - c. What we heard 17
  - d. How we considered people's views and suggestions in our proposals 19
- 4. Our goals: independence, transparency and accessibility 19

3 PART 3 – THE HISTORY OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSIONS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA'S LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY 21
A. Introduction 22
B. The Angus Commission (1966) 23
C. The Norris Commission (1975) 24
D. The Eckardt Commission (1978) 24
E. The Warren Commission (1982) 25
F. The McAdam Commission (1984) 27
G. The Fisher Commission (1988) 28
H. The Wood Commission (1999) 30

4 PART 4 – THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK 33
A. British Columbia Legislation 34
  1. The current single member plurality (SMP) system 34
    a. The area, boundaries and names of the electoral districts 35
    b. Increasing the number of electoral districts 35
  2. The proposed single transferable vote (BC-STV) system 35
  3. Our commission only proposes 36
B. Legislation in Other Canadian Jurisdictions 36
C. Court Decisions 36
  1. The Supreme Court of Canada's interpretation of the right to vote 36
  2. Applying the Supreme Court of Canada's interpretation provincially 39
D. Summary of Legal Principles Governing Us 39

5 PART 5 – "EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION" AND "VERY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES" 41
A. Our Understanding of "Effective Representation" 42
B. Our Approach to "Very Special Circumstances" 43

6 PART 6 – DETERMINING ELECTORAL DISTRICT POPULATIONS 47
A. Calculating the Provincial Electoral Quotient 48
  1. Census data 49
  2. Voter count data 49
B. The Changing Face of British Columbia 50

7 PART 7 – REGIONAL GROUPINGS 51

A. British Columbia's Regions ***52***

B. Previous Commissions' Regions ***53***

C. Our Regional Groupings ***54***

8 PART 8 – ELECTORAL DISTRICTS AND MLAs 57

A. Legislation ***58***

B. History ***59***

C. What People Told Us ***60***

D. How B.C. Compares to Other Provinces and Territories ***60***

E. Discussion ***61***

9 PART 9 – PROPOSED SINGLE MEMBER PLURALITY BOUNDARIES 63

A. A Description of the SMP Electoral System ***64***

B. The Process ***64***

1. The steps we went through in developing our proposed SMP electoral districts 64
2. Using updated population projections 67

C. The North ***68***

1. The evolution of the North's electoral districts 68
2. Our analysis of the North's electoral districts 76
    a. The West 77
    b. The Peace 78
    c. The Central North 80
3. "Protecting northern representation" 82
4. Conclusion 84

D. The Cariboo-Thompson ***95***

1. The evolution of the Cariboo-Thompson electoral districts 95
2. Our analysis of the Cariboo-Thompson electoral districts 102
3. Conclusion 106

E. The Okanagan ***114***

1. Evolution of the Okanagan electoral districts 114
2. Our analysis of the Okanagan electoral districts 121
3. Conclusion 123

F. The Columbia-Kootenay **133**
1. Evolution of the Columbia-Kootenay electoral districts 133
2. Our analysis of the Columbia-Kootenay electoral districts 141
3. Conclusion 142
G. The Fraser Valley **149**
1. Evolution of the Fraser Valley electoral districts north of the river 149
2. Evolution of the Fraser Valley electoral districts south of the river 157
3. Our analysis of the Fraser Valley electoral districts 165
4. Conclusion 168
H. The Tri-Cities Area **181**
1. Evolution of the Tri-Cities electoral districts 181
2. Our analysis of the Tri-Cities electoral districts 188
3. Conclusion 189
I. Surrey **196**
1. Evolution of Surrey's electoral districts 196
2. Our analysis of Surrey's electoral districts 204
3. Conclusion 205
J. Richmond and Delta **216**
1. Evolution of the Richmond and Delta electoral districts 216
2. Our analysis of the Richmond and Delta electoral districts 222
3. Conclusion 223
K. Burnaby and New Westminster **231**
1. Evolution of the Burnaby and New Westminster electoral districts 231
2. Our analysis of the Burnaby and New Westminster electoral districts 238
3. Conclusion 239
L. Vancouver **247**
1. Evolution of Vancouver's electoral districts 247
2. Our analysis of Vancouver's electoral districts 256
3. Conclusion 258
M. The North Shore 273
1. Evolution of the North Shore electoral districts 274
2. Our analysis of the North Shore electoral districts 280
3. Conclusion 281
N. Vancouver Island and South Coast **288**
1. Evolution of the Vancouver Island and South Coast electoral districts 288
2. Our analysis of the Vancouver Island and South Coast electoral districts 297
3. Conclusion 301

10 PART 10 – PROPOSED BC-STV ELECTORAL SYSTEM BOUNDARIES 319
A. A Description of the Proposed BC-STV Electoral System ***320***
1. Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform 320
2. Key elements of the proposed BC-STV electoral system 320
3. 2005 referendum on the proposed BC-STV electoral system 321
4. The role of this Electoral Boundaries Commission 322
5. To learn more about BC-STV 323
B. Combining SMP Electoral Districts to Create BC-STV Electoral Districts ***323***
C. Reasons for Our Proposed District Magnitudes ***324***
D. Our Proposals for BC-STV Electoral Boundaries ***326***
1. The North 326
2. The Cariboo-Thompson 327
3. The Okanagan 327
4. The Columbia-Kootenay 328
5. The Fraser Valley 328
6. Tri-Cities 329
7. Surrey 329
8. Richmond and Delta 330
9. Burnaby and New Westminster 330
10. Vancouver 330
11. North Shore 331
12. Vancouver Island and South Coast 331

A. Delivery of this Preliminary Report ***354***
B. Public Hearings ***354***
C. Dates and Locations of Our Public Hearings ***354***
D. Registration for Presenters ***355***
E. Written Submissions ***355***
F. The Commission's Final Report ***355***
G. The Role of the Legislative Assembly ***356***

12 PART 12 – DESCRIPTIONS OF PROPOSED ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES 357

13 PART 13 – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION 361

List of Maps and Tables *362 – 373*

Appendices *374 – 452*

List of Staff and Suppliers *453*

Part 1 – Executive Summary

Part 1 – Executive Summary

B.C.'s Legislative Assembly currently consists of 79 MLAs, each MLA representing a single-member electoral district.

The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* requires that a new electoral boundaries commission be established after every second provincial election (once every eight years), to propose changes to the electoral boundaries based on recent population changes.

The commission

In late 2005 our three-person independent, non-partisan Electoral Boundaries Commission was appointed.

Our commissioners are:

- Bruce Cohen, Chair, a B.C. Supreme Court justice,
- Stewart Ladyman, a retired school district administrator and,
- Harry Neufeld, B.C.'s Chief Electoral Officer.

The commission's mandate

The Legislative Assembly assigned two tasks to us:

1. Propose new electoral boundaries for the current single member plurality (SMP) electoral system, sometimes called the first-past-the-post electoral system. We may propose an increase in the number of MLAs, from the current 79 up to a maximum of 85.
2. Propose electoral boundaries, and the number of MLAs to be elected in each district, for the B.C. single

transferable vote (BC-STV) electoral system proposed by the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform in 2004.

We must propose that the same number of MLAs be elected under the SMP electoral system and under the proposed BC-STV electoral system.

The legal framework

In developing our proposals for SMP electoral districts, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* instructs us to be governed by the following:

- that the principle of representation by population be achieved, recognizing the imperatives imposed by geographical and demographic realities, the legacy of our history and the need to balance the community interests of the people of British Columbia;
- to achieve that principle, we are permitted to deviate from the provincial electoral quotient by no more than plus or minus 25 percent; and,
- we are permitted to propose electoral districts with deviations exceeding plus or minus 25 percent where we consider that very special circumstances exist.

In deciding whether to propose an increase in the number of SMP electoral districts, we must take into account:

- geographic and demographic considerations, including the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia and the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia; and,
- the availability of means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

We are also governed by the constitutional guarantee of the right to vote, enshrined in the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. The Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that: "the purpose of the right to vote enshrined in s. 3 of the *Charter* is not equality of voting power *per se*, but the right to 'effective representation.'"

Consequently, our legal and constitutional obligation is to propose electoral districts that come as close as possible to the provincial electoral quotient (total provincial population divided by the number of electoral districts), and to deviate from that quotient only to the extent necessary to ensure effective representation.

Proposed BC-STV electoral districts

In May 2009 British Columbians will vote in a referendum to decide whether B.C. should adopt the BC-STV electoral system that was proposed by the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform in 2004. If the referendum passes, the new electoral system will take effect starting with the 2013 provincial general election.

In order that people voting in the 2009 referendum will have a clear understanding of how electoral districts would be configured under the BC-STV electoral system, the Legislative Assembly instructed our commission to make proposals as to:

- the areas, boundaries and names of proposed BC-STV electoral districts; and,
- the number of MLAs for each of those electoral districts.

The challenges

Boundary setting in British Columbia is a complex and difficult task, given our province's geography and very uneven population distribution. The northern two-thirds of the province is sparsely populated, with most people living along or very near the major highways, with vast uninhabited tracts of land farther north. However, in the Okanagan, the Lower Mainland and southeastern Vancouver Island, densely populated urban areas predominate.

The 2006 census and population projections provided by BC Stats indicate that the trend toward greater urbanization will continue – urban centres will grow, at the expense of rural areas of the province. This trend of population growth and movement poses a challenge for our commission, as we struggle with the competing claims of achieving relative voter parity and ensuring effective representation.

Public input
In the fall of 2006 our three commissioners visited 30 communities throughout the province – from Nelson to Fort Nelson, Surrey to Smithers and Port Hardy to Prince George – to hear from residents, community leaders and anyone who wanted to share their views with a commissioner regarding community history, transportation and communications challenges, connections between specific communities and boundary setting. More than 500 people participated in the consultation sessions.

In addition, we received more than 150 written submissions, offering specific, general and, at times, conflicting boundary suggestions.

The commission's process
When the last commission reported in 1999, six of its 79 proposed electoral districts had deviations in excess of minus 25 percent – in those six, the commission found that "very special circumstances" existed. Due to population changes since then, that number has now increased from six to 13. In addition, four current electoral districts now have deviations in excess of plus 25 percent.

We have concluded that "very special circumstances" do not exist in all 17 of these districts.

We began (consistent with the practice of previous commissions) by grouping the existing 79 electoral districts into 12 regions. Within each region, we "rebalanced" the population among electoral districts. However, that process still resulted in 10 of 79 electoral districts having deviations outside the plus or minus 25 percent statutory limit, and resulted in numerous important community interests being violated.

We then worked through each region in turn, examining factors such as current and projected population, the history of redistricting in that region, community interests, and transportation and communication challenges. It was an iterative process. We began with 79 electoral districts, and embraced without qualification the statutory authority to increase that number to 85, if we concluded that we should do so.

At each stage, we made decisions about whether the number of electoral districts in a region should be preserved, or whether there should be an increase or decrease. At the conclusion of this iterative process, we concluded that we should propose that the overall number of SMP electoral districts be increased from 79 to 81.

The commission's proposed SMP electoral districts
We are consequently proposing, as set out below, that there be one less electoral district in each of three regions, and that there be one additional electoral district in each of five other regions.

Given a provincial population of 4,113,487, and 81 proposed SMP electoral districts, the "provincial electoral quotient" referred to above equals 50,784. In the tables that follow, the "Deviation" column shows how far each proposed electoral district's population is above or below the provincial electoral quotient.

The North

We propose that the number of electoral districts in the North be reduced from eight to seven (see map at page 87):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
North Coast	23,135	-54.4%
Skeena-Stikine	38,199	-24.8%
Bulkley-Nechako	38,243	-24.7%
Prince George	50,893	+0.2%
Fraser–Fort George	41,371	-18.5%
Peace River	41,157	-19.0%
Northland	23,881	-53.0%

Cariboo-Thompson

We propose that the number of electoral districts in the Cariboo-Thompson be reduced from five to four (see map at page 109):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Cariboo-Chilcotin	45,104	-11.2%
Cariboo-Fraser	42,170	-17.0%
Kamloops-South Thompson	51,812	+2.0%
Kamloops-North Thompson	50,042	-1.5%

Okanagan

We propose that the number of electoral districts in the Okanagan be increased from six to seven (see map at page 125):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Shuswap	53,658	+5.7%
Vernon-Monashee	58,538	+15.3%
Kelowna–Lake Country	51,968	+2.3%
Kelowna-Mission	53,231	+4.8%
Kelowna-Westside	51,850	+2.1%
Penticton	53,777	+5.9%
Boundary-Similkameen	43,052	-15.2%

Columbia-Kootenay

We propose that the number of electoral districts in the Columbia-Kootenay be reduced from four to three (see map at page 145):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Kootenay East	39,951	-21.3%
Kootenay South	50,851	+0.1%
Kootenay West	54,025	+6.4%

Fraser Valley

We propose that the number of electoral districts in the Fraser Valley be increased from eight to nine (see map at page 171):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	50,474	-0.6%
Maple Ridge–Mission	50,193	-1.2%
Mission-Clayburn	52,874	+4.1%
Langley West	53,231	+4.8%
Langley East	50,805	0.0%
Abbotsford-Aldergrove	50,965	+0.4%
Abbotsford Centre	52,495	+3.4%
Abbotsford-Chilliwack	49,863	-1.8%
Chilliwack-Hope	48,807	-3.9%

Tri-Cities (Port Moody–Coquitlam–Port Coquitlam)

We propose that the number of electoral districts in the Tri-Cities be four (see map at page 191):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Port Moody–Coquitlam	51,539	+1.5%
Coquitlam-Maillardville	46,315	-8.8%
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	46,732	-8.0%
Port Coquitlam	52,692	+3.8%

Surrey

We propose that the number of electoral districts in Surrey be increased from seven to eight (see map at page 207):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Surrey-Whalley	51,283	+1.0%
Surrey-Guildford	51,801	+2.0%
Surrey–Green Timbers	51,142	+0.7%
Surrey-Fleetwood	51,985	+2.4%
Surrey-Newton	53,711	+5.8%
Surrey-Panorama	52,060	+2.5%
Surrey-Cloverdale	50,875	+0.2%
Surrey–White Rock	51,128	+0.7%

Richmond and Delta

We propose that the number of electoral districts in Richmond and Delta be maintained at five (see map at page 225):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Richmond Centre	55,942	+10.2%
Richmond-Steveston	60,721	+19.6%
Richmond East	57,798	+13.8%
Delta South	45,774	-9.9%
Delta North	51,628	+1.7%

Burnaby and New Westminster

We propose that the number of electoral districts be four in Burnaby and one in New Westminster (see map at page 241):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Burnaby-Brentwood	51,274	+1.0%
Burnaby-Lougheed	50,229	-1.1%
Burnaby-Willingdon	50,957	+0.3%
Burnaby-Edmonds	50,339	-0.9%
New Westminster	58,549	+15.3%

Vancouver

We propose that the number of electoral districts in Vancouver be increased from 10 to 11 (see map at page 261):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Vancouver-Hastings	55,595	+9.5%
Vancouver-Kingsway	57,185	+12.6%
Vancouver-Fraserview	57,276	+12.8%
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	52,628	+3.6%
Vancouver-Kensington	54,967	+8.2%
Vancouver–West End	48,725	-4.1%
Vancouver–False Creek	43,568	-14.2%
Vancouver-Fairview	52,020	+2.4%
Vancouver-Langara	57,047	+12.3%
Vancouver–Point Grey	54,823	+8.0%
Vancouver-Quilchena	56,409	+11.1%

North Shore

We propose that the number of electoral districts for the North Shore remain at four (see map at page 283):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
North Vancouver–Seymour	52,164	+2.7%
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	54,600	+7.5%
West Vancouver–Capilano	54,238	+6.8%
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	49,161	-3.2%

Vancouver Island and South Coast

We propose that the number of electoral districts for Vancouver Island and the South Coast remain at 14 (see map at page 303):

Electoral District	Population	Deviation
Northern Island and South Coast		
North Island	53,654	+5.7%
Comox Valley	55,543	+9.4%
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	47,109	-7.2%
Central Island	46,214	-9.0%
Mid-Island		
Parksville-Qualicum	53,318	+5.0%
Nanaimo	53,940	+6.2%
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	52,695	+3.8%
Cowichan–Goldstream	54,946	+8.2%
Capital Region		
Saanich North and the Islands	55,201	+8.7%
Saanich West	56,548	+11.4%
Saanich East	51,880	+2.2%
Victoria–Oak Bay	57,571	+13.4%
Victoria-Esquimalt	57,133	+12.5%
Juan de Fuca	56,240	+10.7%

The commission's proposed BC-STV electoral districts

We propose that the BC-STV electoral districts be created by combining adjacent SMP electoral districts that respect, as much as possible, important geographical, demographic, historical and community interests. We also propose that the number of MLAs to be elected in each BC-STV electoral district (district magnitude) vary between two and six, and that a district magnitude of two apply only to sparsely populated areas of the province.

We propose that there be 20 BC-STV electoral districts electing 81 MLAs. (see maps beginning at page 333):

BC-STV district	No. of MLAs	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Northeast	2	274,752	65,038	-36.0%
Northwest	2	299,269	61,334	-39.6%
North Central	3	130,074	130,507	-14.3%
Cariboo-Thompson	4	136,209	189,128	-6.9%
Okanagan-Shuswap	4	15,387	217,395	+7.0%
Okanagan-Boundary	3	19,013	148,679	-2.4%
Columbia-Kootenay	3	76,132	144,827	-4.9%
Fraser Valley East	4	11,810	204,039	+0.4%
Fraser Valley West	5	2,812	255,668	+0.7%
Tri-Cities	4	763	197,278	-2.9%
Surrey North	4	129	206,211	+1.5%
Surrey South	4	258	207,774	+2.3%
Richmond-Delta	5	993	271,863	+7.1%
Burnaby-New Westminster	5	115	261,348	+2.9%
Vancouver East	5	58	277,651	+9.3%
Vancouver West	6	108	312,592	+2.6%
North Shore	4	10,115	210,163	+3.5%
North Island-South Coast	4	81,344	202,520	-0.3%
Mid-Island	4	5,957	214,899	+5.8%
Capital Region	6	4,745	334,573	+9.8%

Part 2 – The Role of the Commission

Part 2 – The Role of the Commission

Part 2 – The Role of the Commission

A. Introduction

1. The Electoral Boundaries Commission Act

One of the most cherished fundamental rights of Canadian citizens is the right to vote – voting breathes life into our democratic ideal. What does the right to vote mean? At a minimum, it means the right to cast a ballot. Historically, however, the right to vote has taken on a much more robust meaning. We speak of "one person, one vote," which means equality of voting power or an electoral system in which every person's vote has the same value.

Equality of voting power could be achieved in a jurisdiction where the population is distributed evenly. Electoral districts could be drawn of relatively equal geographical size and with approximately the same number of people. Then, every person's vote would be worth the same. In reality, there are few jurisdictions where geography and the distribution of people make this possible.

It certainly does not work in British Columbia, which is an extreme example of uneven population distribution. According to the 2006 census, about 85 percent of our population lives on 16 percent of our land base (the Lower Mainland, Okanagan and southern Vancouver Island), with vast, sparsely populated areas across the northern two-thirds of the province and in some parts of the Cariboo and the Kootenays.

In recognition of these geographic and demographic realities, British Columbia has always adopted electoral districts that vary in size, depending on factors such as geography, population, history, transportation, communication and community interests. Indeed, the legislation under which our commission operates allows us to propose electoral districts whose populations are as much as 25 percent above or below the provincial average, or even more in "very special circumstances." This discretion is typical across Canada, although the allowable deviation ranges from plus or minus 5 percent to plus or minus 25 percent.

Equality of voting power does not adequately describe the right to vote. Since 1982, the right to vote has been guaranteed in the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and the Supreme Court of Canada has stated that: "the purpose of the right to vote enshrined in s. 3 of the *Charter* is not equality of voting power per se, but the right to 'effective representation.' " As you will see when reading this report, much of our energy has gone into proposing electoral boundaries that take into account geography, population, history and community interests with the intent that every British Columbian receive effective representation.

British Columbia's population is not only unevenly distributed, it is also growing. When our current 79 electoral districts were adopted in 1999, they were based on the 1996 provincial census population of 3,724,500. Since then, British Columbia's population has grown by 10.4 percent, to 4,113,487, and this growth has been uneven, taking place primarily in the Okanagan, Lower Mainland and southeastern part of Vancouver Island.

The challenge facing our commission is to propose electoral boundaries that consider our province's geography, our very uneven population distribution, our history, transportation, communications and community interests, as well as population projections during the life span of our commission's proposals.

Provincial legislation, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* (see Appendix A), mandates that an electoral boundaries commission must be appointed within one year after every second provincial general election. Since British Columbia now has a fixed election date every four years, a new electoral boundaries commission is appointed every eight years. Our commission was appointed in late 2005 and our final proposals, if adopted by the Legislative Assembly, will apply to the 2009 and 2013 provincial general elections.

Currently, British Columbia has a single member plurality (SMP) electoral system. In a provincial general election, each voter is entitled to vote for only one candidate. The candidate in an electoral district who receives the most votes (a plurality) wins, and the political party that elects the most candidates forms the government.

Under this electoral system, the role of an electoral boundaries commission is to consider population changes since the last set of electoral districts was adopted, and to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the area, boundaries and names of electoral districts.

Commissions are usually authorized to propose an increase in the number of electoral districts. Our commission, for example, is authorized by the legislation to propose an increase in the number of electoral districts, from the current 79 up to 85. At 79 electoral districts, British Columbia has 52,069 constituents per MLA. Two provinces have higher ratios of constituents to elected members: Ontario (118,061) and Quebec (60,369).[1]

---

[1] See Part 8 ("Electoral Districts and MLAs") on p. 61, for an inter-jurisdictional comparison.

In addition to this normal mandate, our commission has been given a second task, which is unique in Canadian electoral boundary setting history. Some background explanation is required.

In April 2003 the Legislative Assembly unanimously established an independent, non-partisan Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform, consisting of 161 members (one man and one woman from each of the 79 electoral districts, two First Nations members and the Chair of the Citizens' Assembly).

The Citizens' Assembly initiative grew out of an on going debate about the adequacy of the current SMP electoral system. While proponents favour its simplicity and its tendency to produce majority governments, opponents contend that it is an unfair electoral system because:

- a candidate does not need to receive at least 50 percent of the votes in his or her electoral district to win (for example, in the 2005 general election, 36 of 79 MLAs elected did not receive majority support);
- the political party that receives the most votes does not necessarily form the government (for example, in the 1996 provincial election, the B.C. Liberal Party received 41.8 percent of the vote, but the New Democratic Party of B.C., which received only 39.5 percent of the vote, elected more candidates and formed government); and,
- each political party's share of votes is not necessarily reflected in its share of seats in the Legislative Assembly (for example, in the 2001 provincial election, all opposition parties combined received 42 percent of the vote, but won only 2.5 percent of the seats or two seats).

The Citizens' Assembly identified three basic values that it believed should form the basis of our electoral system:

- *fair election results through proportionality:* the number of seats won by each political party in an election should reflect as closely as possible the number of votes each party received;
- *effective local representation:* each community needs the opportunity to choose the people who speak for it in the legislature, and to hold them accountable in democratic elections; and,
- *greater voter choice:* citizens should have the fullest possible opportunity to choose the candidates that best represent their interests, among party candidates and across all parties.

After studying a variety of electoral systems used around the world, conducting 50 public hearings across the province and considering over 1,600 written submissions, the Citizens' Assembly ultimately concluded that a single transferable vote (STV) system would best reflect these values, with several features unique to British Columbia, hence BC-STV.

In May 2005 British Columbians voted in a referendum on the Citizens' Assembly's recommendations. To pass, two thresholds had to be met. First, in at least 60 percent of B.C.'s electoral districts (48 of 79), more than 50 percent of valid votes cast had to vote "yes" – that threshold was passed in 97.5 percent of electoral districts (77). Second, at least 60 percent of valid votes cast province-wide had to vote "yes" – that threshold was not met, as only 57.7 percent voted "yes."

The provincial government has decided that a second referendum on the Citizens' Assembly's recommendations will be held in conjunction with the May 2009 general election. In order that voters have a better understanding of what electoral boundaries would look like under a BC-STV electoral system, the Legislative Assembly has instructed our commission to make proposals based on the BC-STV system, as to:

- the areas, boundaries and names of the electoral districts under BC-STV; and,
- the number of MLAs for each of those electoral districts.

We are required to propose that the same number of MLAs be elected for both the SMP and the BC-STV electoral systems.

Our commission has no preference for or against BC-STV, and has no authority to invite submissions about whether or not BC-STV should be adopted. Our expanded mandate is limited to drawing proposed BC-STV electoral boundaries, which will potentially be used in the 2013 provincial general election if the May 2009 BC-STV referendum passes. The proposed BC-STV electoral system is described in more detail in Part 10 of this report.

The Legislative Assembly has instructed us to prepare a report by August 15, 2007, with our proposals for the number of electoral districts and the area, boundaries and names for each district, under each electoral system. We have named this document *Preliminary Report*.

We submit this report to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, who "must promptly cause it to be made public."[2]

We will hold public hearings around the province, so that people can make representations to us responding to our proposals. Following these public hearings, we may amend our proposals and must submit any amendments to the Speaker by February 15, 2008. We will name that document the *Final Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia*.

Thus, the purpose of this *Preliminary Report* is to describe our conclusions respecting the number of electoral districts, and the area, boundaries and name for each proposed electoral district under the current SMP system and the proposed BC-STV system. In this report, we will lay out the rules under which we operate, our conclusions and the reasons for them.

We encourage you to give us your views, either in writing or orally at one of our public hearings about our proposed electoral boundaries, so that we can produce the best possible sets of electoral boundaries within the legislative framework.

The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* states that there must be a three-person commission, consisting of:

- a judge or a retired judge of the B.C. Supreme Court or the B.C. Court of Appeal, nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council;
- a person who is not a member of the Legislative Assembly or

---

[2] *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, s. 10(2).

an employee of the government, nominated by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly after consultation with the Premier and the Leader of the Official Opposition; and,

- the chief electoral officer appointed under the *Election Act.*

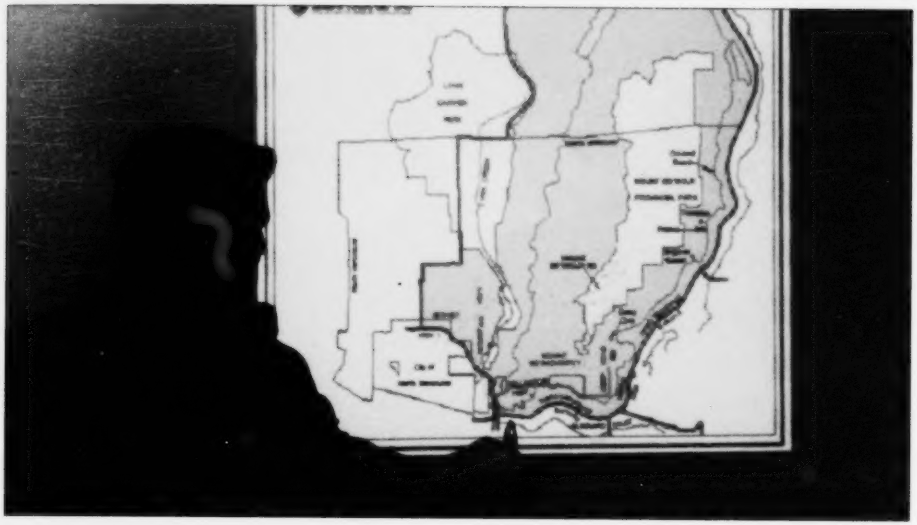
In late 2005 the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council appointed:

- **Mr. Justice Bruce Cohen,** a B.C. Supreme Court judge, who acts as commission chair. Justice Cohen was born in Vancouver, B.C. He received his B.A. (1962) and LL.B. (1965) from the University of British Columbia, and his LL.M. (1966) from the University of California (Berkeley). He was called to the bar of British Columbia in 1967, and practised with the Vancouver law firm of Ladner Downs (now Borden Ladner Gervais LLP). Justice Cohen was elected a bencher (director) of the Law Society of British Columbia in 1978, and served as its treasurer (president) in 1986. He was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1983. He accepted an appointment to the Supreme Court of British Columbia in 1987.
- **Stewart Ladyman,** a retired school district administrator who lives in Penticton. Mr. Ladyman was born in Redhill, Surrey, England. He received a B.Sc. in zoology from U.B.C. (1967) and a master's in educational administration from U.B.C. (1977). He initially taught as a secondary teacher in Midway, B.C. Between 1975 and 1988, he acted as supervising principal of six rural elementary schools in the Kettle Valley School District; principal of David Thompson Secondary School in Invermere; and superintendent of schools in School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) and School District No. 21 (Armstrong-Spallumcheen). In 1988, he was appointed superintendent of schools in School District No. 15 (Penticton). Between 1996 and 2002, Mr. Ladyman was seconded to the Ministry of Education as superintendent, field liaison, where he was involved in many complex public policy issues and program delivery matters. He is currently a private consultant, providing a full range of professional services to the education system.
- **Harry Neufeld**, the chief electoral officer for the Province of British Columbia. Mr. Neufeld was born in Brooks, Alberta. He has a B.A. from the University of Lethbridge and an M.A. in political science from the University of Victoria. He has more than 25 years of electoral management experience, having held senior level positions in three electoral management bodies: Elections BC, the United Nations and Elections Canada. In addition, he has worked as an electoral management consultant with the Canadian Royal Commission on Electoral Reform and with various international organizations and electoral agencies around the globe. Mr. Neufeld has contributed numerous articles on electoral management published by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, the International Foundation for Election Systems, and the United Nations Electoral Assistance Division.

Our senior staff consists of **Leo Perra** (Executive Director), **Cathy Stooshnov** (Manager, Finance and Administration) and **Wendy Stewart** (Manager, Communications). For a complete listing of our staff, please turn to the back of this report.

We retained **Brian J. Wallace, Q.C.,** a senior partner with the Vancouver law firm of Lawson Lundell LLP as commission counsel, and **Keith R. Hamilton,** a Vancouver sole practitioner, as research counsel.

Part of our work requires a technical understanding of demographics, including population estimates and projections. Although most earlier commissions hired their own demographics staff, we decided to rely on the expertise of BC Stats instead.



In addition, we needed people specially trained in map plotting and in the use of sophisticated new Elections Canada computer software called the Commission Re-Districting Tool. Rather than develop our own in-house expertise in these areas, we concluded that it would be more efficient and economical to rely on Elections BC's expertise, and we entered into a formal agreement with that office to provide these services to our commission. **Randy Parker,** Elections BC's director of geographic and voter data services, oversees this aspect of our work, and **Daniel Hirner** is the production manager.[3]

Once our team was in place, we began the daunting task of educating ourselves about the challenges we would face. We commissioned research on electoral boundaries legislation across Canada, on Canadian court decisions interpreting this legislation and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms'* "right to vote" guarantee, and on the evolution of electoral districts in British Columbia since the first modern commission was appointed in 1966.

We learned a great deal from meetings with:

- **Robert Patterson** and **Lisa Martz,** a commissioner and commission counsel, respectively, from the 1999 Wood Electoral Boundaries Commission;
- **Prof. Kenneth Carty**, acting head of U.B.C.'s political science department, who served as advisor to the 1988 Fisher Commission and to the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform, and as a commissioner on the 2003 Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for B.C.;
- **Prof. John Courtney**, professor emeritus in the Department of Political Studies at the University of Saskatchewan, a Canadian expert on electoral issues and author of several important texts, including *Commissioned Ridings*;
- **Richard Balasko**, Manitoba's chief electoral officer who has served on several boundary commissions;
- **Dr. Lisa Handley**, an electoral boundary delimitation consultant from Washington, D.C.;
- **Don McRae,** director of administration for BC Stats;
- **Neil Reimer**, senior policy and legislation analyst and **Janet Erasmus**, senior legislative counsel,

---

[3] During our public consultation sessions (discussed below), we were given examples of past electoral district boundaries that had unintentionally isolated people from the electoral district with which they had a clear community interest, and of instances in which voters had to travel through a different electoral district in order to vote in their own electoral district. In carrying out our duties, we wanted to ensure that, to the extent possible, our proposed boundaries avoided these problems. To that end, we sought the assistance of Elections BC's technical staff.

B.C. Ministry of Attorney General;

- **Linda Johnson**, deputy chief electoral officer for B.C.;
- **Brett McGillivray,** B.C. geography instructor at Capilano College;
- **David Baxter,** futurist, The Urban Futures Institute, Vancouver;
- **Helmut Pastrick**, chief economist, B.C. Central Credit Union;
- **Dr. Tracy Summerville**, assistant professor of political science at the University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George; and,
- Seven **alumni** of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform.

In order to engage the public in our work and to encourage public participation, we developed a multi-faceted communications program. We compiled a comprehensive mailing list of several thousand individuals and organizations who we thought would have an interest in our work and, through letters and brochures, invited them to participate in our public consultation process. We also developed an interactive website (www.bc-ebc.ca), and a brochure that was widely distributed. In advance of each public consultation session we published advertisements in local newspapers and conducted media interviews.

The legislation under which we operate does not require that we consult with the public before submitting our *Preliminary Report*. However, one of our first decisions was that it would be unwise for us to reach conclusions about boundaries until we had heard from and considered the views of interested members of the public, MLAs and representatives of political parties.

Electoral districts need to work – boundaries need to take into account community interests, history and population growth trends, and electoral districts need to be of a geographical size and population that makes it possible for MLAs to provide effective representation to constituents. We were convinced we would learn a great deal about what works by visiting local communities and talking to residents and MLAs.

For those reasons, we spent 12 weeks between September and November 2006 travelling to 30 communities across the province. In order for us to get to as many communities as possible in the available time, one commissioner attended and chaired each of these informal public consultations. The commissioners met regularly between these consultation sessions, to ensure that all three of us were aware of the views expressed at each of the public consultation sessions.

We also held two sessions (September 13 and 28, 2006) focusing on the concerns of MLAs and one session (September 14, 2006) devoted to political parties' issues, which all three commissioners attended.

Summaries of what was discussed at each consultation session can be found on our website.

Including the MLA and political party sessions, we held 34 sessions in 30 communities covering every region of the province. In the less densely populated areas, we did our best to choose locations that most people could drive to within 90 minutes:

The North
- Masset
- Prince Rupert
- Terrace
- Smithers
- Prince George
- Dawson Creek
- Fort Nelson

Cariboo-Thompson
- Williams Lake
- Kamloops
- Merritt

Columbia-Kootenay
- Cranbrook
- Nelson

Okanagan
- Kelowna
- Penticton

Fraser Valley
- Maple Ridge
- Langley
- Chilliwack

Tri-Cities
- Coquitlam

Surrey
- Surrey

Richmond-Delta
- Richmond

Burnaby-New Westminster
- New Westminster

Vancouver
- Vancouver-Downtown
- Vancouver–West Broadway

North Shore
- North Vancouver

Vancouver Island–South Coast
- Sechelt
- Port Hardy
- Campbell River
- Courtenay
- Port Alberni
- Nanaimo
- Victoria

For a complete listing of consultation session dates and locations, and who made oral presentations and written submissions to the commission, please see Appendices J and K.

More than 500 people attended our public consultation sessions, and many others made written submissions. People spoke articulately, many passionately, about their political representation and how it could be improved. Suggestions ranged from the very general ("don't add any more MLAs") to the very specific ("move our district's boundary over by one street").

It has been an invaluable educational experience for us – we learned a great deal about our province and its people, our challenging geography, the dramatic differences among regions and B.C.'s very uneven population distribution and its growth. We are, unquestionably, much more sensitive to the concerns of those rural British Columbians who do not want to lose their voices in Victoria.

Later in this report, when we discuss our proposed electoral districts, we will refer to the specific suggestions for boundary setting that we received. For now, we want to summarize the more general views and suggestions we received and considered. Not surprisingly, people did not speak with one voice and, at times, suggestions were contradictory. But even that is helpful, as it confirms our own conclusion that decisions on boundary setting can be difficult.

The general themes we heard about boundary setting were as follows:

- B.C. is a province of regions, and we should try to rebalance population among the electoral districts of each region first, before deciding whether to propose the addition or elimination of an electoral district.
- In the North and other sparsely

populated rural regions we should not reduce the number of electoral districts in any region, an approach adopted by the 1999 Wood Commission; others argued for "one person, one vote of equal value."
- We should develop a statistical formula for determining electoral district size in remote areas, taking into account factors such as population density, geographical area and number of kilometers of paved roads.
- We heard conflicting views on whether we should propose an increase in the number of electoral districts (currently 79) up to 85. Some people thought that the annual cost of each additional MLA (between $324,000 and $512,000 according to information provided by the Legislative Assembly) would be better spent on health care, education and social programs. Others said that the number of MLAs should keep pace with our province's increasing population.
- We should recommend two or three province-wide constituencies for members of First Nations, to ensure an effective Aboriginal voice in the legislature. Others spoke against this idea, fearing political exclusion.
- We were told to keep like-minded communities together (*e.g.* draw boundaries along heights of land, not down highways), be aware of a community's trading routes, and make boundaries clearly identifiable to the public, elections officials and political parties.
- Electoral district names should be descriptive and use local identifiers, and we should propose new names for all electoral districts, in order to differentiate our proposed districts from earlier electoral districts.

General comments about the proposed BC-STV electoral system

The second aspect of our mandate is to recommend electoral boundaries for the proposed BC-STV electoral system that was recommended by the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform in 2004. Each BC-STV electoral district would be significantly larger in geographical area than our current electoral districts, and would have between two and seven MLAs. The number of MLAs could vary among electoral districts, and we are mandated to determine the number of MLAs for each electoral district that we propose.

Most submissions focused on two issues:

- *The basis for creating BC-STV electoral districts:* Some people said that we should design electoral districts under the current single member plurality (SMP) electoral system first, and then simply aggregate SMP districts into BC-STV electoral districts. This would make it easier for the public to understand the differences between the SMP and BC-STV electoral systems (when it comes time to vote in the BC-STV referendum in May 2009), and it would be administratively simpler for political parties and elections officials, both of whom are organized around the current SMP boundaries. Others told us that BC-STV electoral districts should reflect truly regional community interests, and that some of our current SMP boundaries had to disregard community interests in order to balance population. Yet others told us that if the BC-STV electoral system is adopted, the first set of BC-STV electoral districts could remain in place for many years, and they should be drawn to stand the test of time. It was suggested that regional district boundaries or bio-regions might be good models to follow.
- *The number of MLAs for each electoral district:* Many people spoke abou proportionality – if one political party gets 40 percent of the votes, it should get about 40 percent of the seats in the Legislative Assembly.

People stressed that BC-STV is designed to improve proportionality, and proportionality improves as the number of MLAs to be elected in any electoral district increases. Some people said that we should not recommend any electoral district with less than three members (except perhaps in sparsely populated areas), while others said that every electoral district should have seven members to maximize proportionality and to improve the likelihood of smaller political parties having a candidate elected. Some people liked five, because it ensured a good degree of proportionality, avoided unwieldy ballots and left room for future growth – i.e. in an electoral district of high growth, a future commission could simply increase the number of MLAs to be elected from five to six, without having to redraw boundaries.

Our staff prepared detailed summaries of every oral presentation and every written submission. In late 2006 and early 2007, we met regularly to review this material and to discuss what we had learned during the public consultations. We also developed numerous scenarios for various electoral district and boundary configurations, mindful of the legal rules under which we operate and the ever-present tension between equality of voting power and the other factors we must consider (e.g. demographics, history and community interests) in order to ensure effective representation.

We have carefully read all this material, and we have spent many hours discussing submitters' comments, views and suggestions.

As we worked through the numerous iterations of proposed boundaries that led to our proposals set out in this report, we constantly referred back to what people had told us. We repeatedly challenged ourselves and each other, by asking how our ideas fit with what we had been told about community interests, communications, transportation and trading routes, winter weather, population growth and decline, and historical precedent. The public consultation helped immensely.

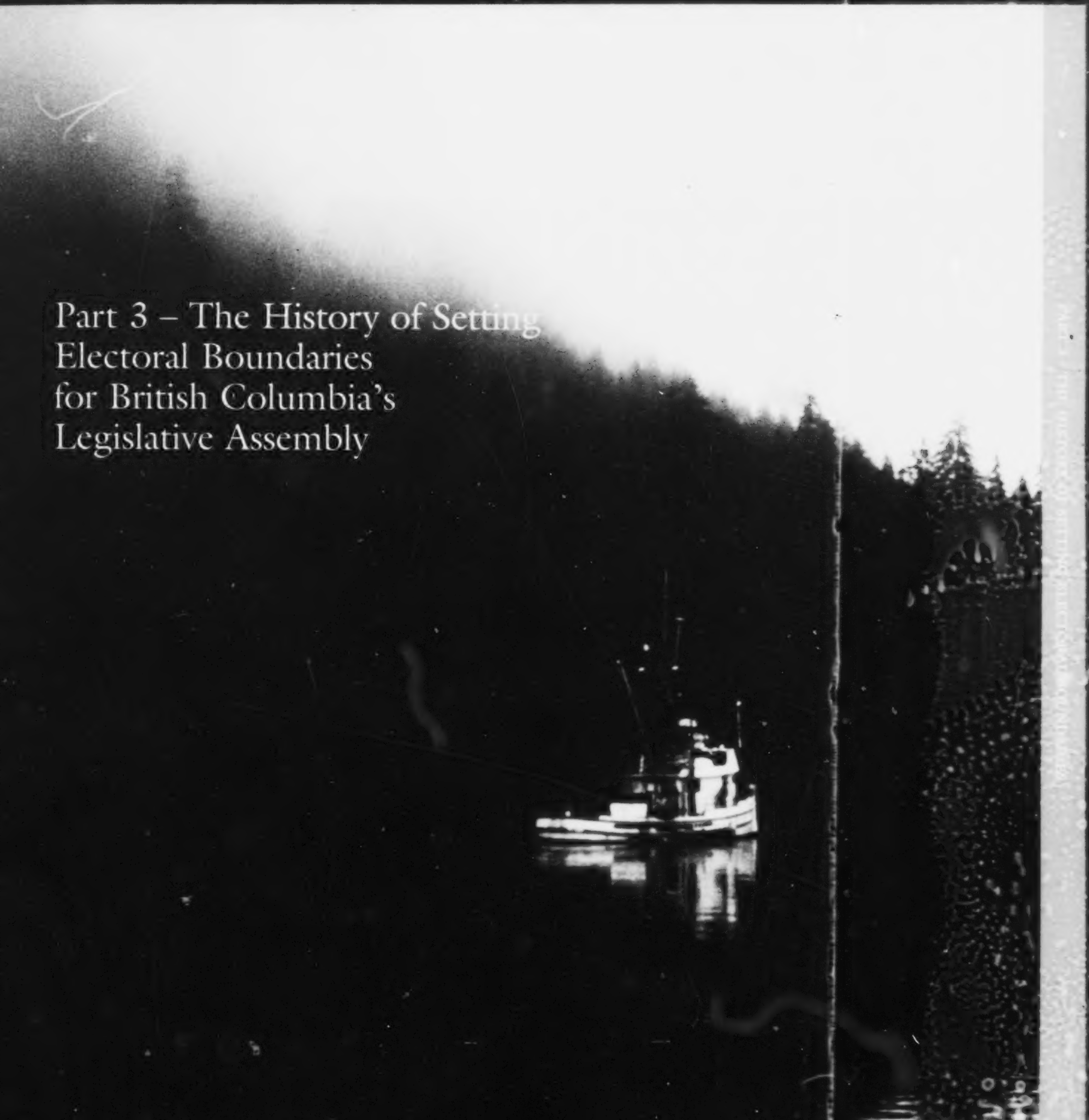
We had to balance the competing ideas heard around the province, and respect the overriding legal and constitutional framework within which we operate – creating electoral districts with relatively equal population, and deviating from parity only to the extent necessary to ensure effective representation.

The legislation which governs us, including provisions that deal with how the three commissioners are appointed and how our commission is to function, ensures our independence and impartiality.

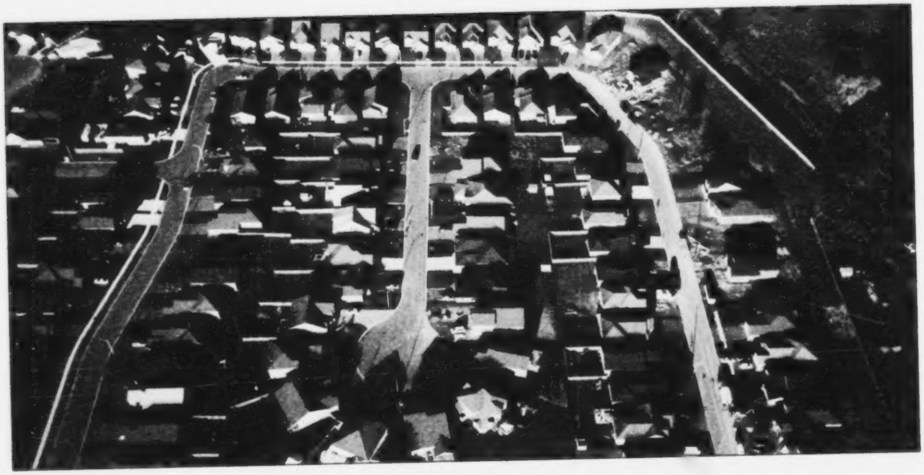
It is equally important to us that the public has confidence in our decisions. To that end, we have made every effort to be accessible to the public, and to be transparent in our activities. For example:

- We held informal public consultation sessions across the province, before beginning the process of developing our proposals set out in this report.
- We advertised widely in the print media, in advance of our public consultation sessions, to encourage the greatest possible public participation.
- We have scheduled formal public hearings across the province following the release of this report, which will be preceded by extensive advertising.
- We have widely distributed brochures and other mailings, encouraging public participation in our processes.
- We maintain a commission website (www.bc-ebc.ca), which includes:
  - summaries of oral presentations made at every public consultation session;
  - every written submission received;
  - reports of previous electoral boundaries commissions; and,
  - maps of current electoral districts.
- We have made ourselves available to the print and electronic media for interviews.
- We plan to circulate this report widely, and provide information on electoral boundaries to every household in the province.

Finally, we decided that this report should be comprehensive, so that readers will have an appreciation of how B.C.'s electoral districts have evolved since the 1960s, as well as the legislation and court decisions that govern our boundary setting. In Parts 9 and 10, we set out not only what our proposals are for specific electoral boundaries, but the reasoning that went into those decisions.



Part 3 – The History of Setting Electoral Boundaries for British Columbia's Legislative Assembly



Part 3 – The History of Setting Electoral Boundaries for British Columbia's Legislative Assembly

1. Introduction

We are the eighth independent electoral boundaries commission in British Columbia's modern history. In this section we will summarize the work of the previous seven commissions. We have learned much from our predecessors, and looking back puts our own work into an important historical context.[4]

Immediately prior to the work of the first independent commission in 1966, the province had 42 electoral districts electing 52 MLAs[5] – there were 34 one-member ridings, six two-member ridings and two three-member ridings. As discussed later in this report (Part 7 – Regional Groupings), we have divided the province into 12 regions, relying heavily on the work of the seven previous electoral boundaries commissions. Using our regional groupings, the pre-1966 electoral districts would be distributed as follows:

---

[4] In Part 9 of this report ("Proposed Single Member Plurality Boundaries"), our proposed electoral districts are discussed on a regional basis and we will provide a more detailed description of the evolution of each region's electoral districts since 1966.

[5] In 1955 the Legislative Assembly increased the number of MLAs from 48 to 52: *Constitution Amendment Act*, SBC 1955, c. 11, s. 3.

The North
Atlin
Prince Rupert
Skeena
Omineca
Fort George
South Peace River
North Peace River

Cariboo-Thompson
Cariboo
Kamloops
Lillooet
Yale

Columbia-Kootenay
Columbia
Cranbrook
Fernie
Grand Forks–Greenwood
Kaslo-Slocan
Nelson-Creston
Revelstoke
Rossland-Trail

Okanagan
Salmon Arm
North Okanagan
South Okanagan
Similkameen

Fraser Valley
Dewdney
Chilliwack

Tri-Cities
(included in Dewdney)

Surrey
(included in Delta)

Richmond-Delta
Delta (2)

Burnaby–New Westminster
Burnaby (2)
New Westminster

Vancouver
Vancouver-Burrard (2)
Vancouver-Centre (2)
Vancouver East (2)
Vancouver–Point Grey (3)

North Shore
North Vancouver (2)

Vancouver Island–South Coast
Mackenzie (Powell River–Sechelt area)
Comox
Alberni
Nanaimo and the Islands
Cowichan-Newcastle
Victoria (3)
Oak Bay
Saanich
Esquimalt

The electoral districts of British Columbia in 1965 reflected a population distribution that was very different from the number of electoral districts in place when we began our work. The Kootenays were thriving, with eight electoral districts (subsequently reduced to four). There was very little population in the Fraser Valley east of Burnaby and New Westminster – one electoral district (Dewdney) served the entire area north of the Fraser River (now five electoral districts) and two electoral districts (Delta and Chilliwack) served the entire area south of the river (now 18 electoral districts). The fledgling communities of Richmond, Delta, Surrey and Langley were all contained within one electoral district (Delta), where now 14 districts exist.

B. The Angus Commission (1966)[*]

In August 1965 there was no *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, so the three-member commission (Henry F. Angus, Frederick H. Hurley and Kenneth L. Morton) was appointed by order-in-council under the *Public Inquiries Act*. The order-in-council directed the commission to secure:

> [P]roper and effective representation of the people of all parts of the province in the Legislative Assembly and that in for-

---

[*] *Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Redefinition of Electoral Districts*, January 1966 [KM83.4, B75].

mulating the recommendations to be contained in their report the commissioners

1. take into account where feasible historical and regional claims for representation;
2. make their recommendations on the basis
   (a) that no electoral district comprise fewer than 7,500 registered voters having regard to present population and apparent population trends to the year 1975, and
   (b) that the Legislative Assembly comprise not fewer than 48 nor more than 52 members; and,
3. give consideration to the provision of multiple member ridings of two members each in the metropolitan areas of Victoria and Vancouver.

The commission recommended retaining the same number of MLAs (52) and abolishing all multi-member electoral districts. It proposed that representation in northern and rural areas be reduced, because of relatively low population, by:

- reducing the North from seven electoral districts to five;
- reducing the Cariboo and Southern Interior from four electoral districts to three; and,
- reducing the Kootenays from eight electoral districts to four.

Finally, it recommended an increase in representation for Vancouver and the Lower Mainland from 19 to 27 electoral districts, because of increases in population.

The Legislative Assembly adopted several of these recommendations, especially those calling for increased representation in the more densely populated Lower Mainland. It agreed that Vancouver should be increased from nine to 12 MLAs, but opted for six two-member ridings rather than 12 single-member ridings. However, it refused to eliminate several rural electoral districts[7], such as Skeena, Atlin and Revelstoke-Slocan. Overall, the number of MLAs increased from 52 to 55.

The Norris Commission

This three-member commission, consisting of the Hon. T.G. Norris, Fred Bowers and Lawrence J. Wallace, was appointed under the *Public Inquiries Act* in July 1975. The same test of "proper and effective representation" was set, and the commissioners were required to:

- take into account where feasible and necessary, historical and regional claims for representation;
- make recommendations for between 55 and 62 MLAs; and,
- give consideration to the provision of two-member ridings in areas of dense population.

In drawing the boundaries, the commission established an electoral quotient, and permitted deviations up to plus or minus 40 percent. It treated its proposed new district of Atlin-Northland as a special case. It tried to conform to municipal and regional district boundaries wherever possible, and decided on two-member ridings on a district-by-district basis.

The commission's principal recommendations included the following:

- increasing the number of MLAs from 55 to 62;
- preserving seven electoral districts in the North;
- adding one electoral district in the Cariboo/Southern Interior;
- eliminating one electoral district in the Kootenays;
- adding six electoral districts to the Lower Mainland (mostly in the Fraser Valley); and,
- adding one electoral district to Vancouver Island.

The Legislature did not adopt any of the commission's recommendations.

Judge Lawrence S. Eckardt was given a sweeping mandate, by order-in-council, to consider alternative methods of voting, voter eligibility requirements, raising and spending of funds by political parties and candidates, income tax deductions for political contributions and designation of political parties for the purpose of status in the Legislative Assembly. With respect to redistribution, he was instructed to make inquiry into and concerning the need for legislative amendment:

---

[7] *Constitution Act Amendment Act, 1966*, SBC 1966, c. 11, Schedule C.

[8] *Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Redefinition of Electoral Districts under the Public Inquiries Act British Columbia*, November 7, 1975 [BCZR 1975 E6B].

[9] *Interim Report on the Redefinition of Electoral Districts for the Province of British Columbia*, Royal Commission on Electoral Reform, 1978, June 1978

> [To] secure, by whatever redefinition of electoral districts is required, proper and effective representation of the people of all parts of the province in the Legislative Assembly and that in formulating the recommendations to be contained in the report the commissioner take into account where feasible historical and regional claims for representation.

In drawing boundaries, Judge Eckardt considered the following factors: population, geographical limitations, communications and transportation, distance from government agencies, social, economic and cultural ties, regional and historical claims, resource management and watershed patterns, and future population and economic growth. He found that there was an even split in opinion between preserving and abolishing dual-member ridings, and ultimately recommended that dual-member ridings be retained.[10]

He recommended that:

- the number of MLAs be increased by two, from 55 to 57;
- the dual-member ridings in Vancouver be reduced from six to five, that Surrey become a dual-member electoral district and that Victoria retain its dual-member status; and
- representation in the North be increased by one, and in the Kootenays be decreased by one.

Judge Eckardt's redistribution resulted in significant deviations from the electoral quotient, ranging from minus 88 percent for Atlin to plus 85 percent for Richmond.

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations, with one electoral district name change.[11]

E. The Warren Commission (1982)

Derril T. Warren was appointed by order-in-council on June 23, 1982 to consider legislative amendments in order to secure equitable and effective representation of the people of all parts of the province. He was required to:

- consider all matters which may provide equitable and effective representation in the Legislative

---

[10] *Royal Commission on Electoral Reform*, 1978, *Final Report*, Volume I, pp. 79–81.

[11] *Constitution Amendment Act, 1978*, SBC 1978, c. 14, Schedule C. The Legislative Assembly changed the name of Judge Eckardt's proposed Boundary-Similkameen district to Similkameen.

[12] *Public Inquiry under the Inquiry Act into Electoral Representation in the Province of British Columbia*, September 1982.

Assembly, based upon, but not limited to, Population Counts 1981 Census of Canada, the geography of the province, and the distribution of population into communities which include urban, suburban, rural and remote; and,
- make his recommendations on the basis that the Legislative Assembly comprise no fewer than 57 nor more than 71 members.

In addition, he was authorized to:
- consider additional representation for existing electoral districts, based upon, but not limited to, population, geographical and historical factors;
- consider the subdivision of any multiple member electoral district that warrants representation by more than two members; and,
- make such further recommendations as he may deem appropriate, based upon, but not limited to, population, geographic and historical factors.

Mr. Warren concluded, based on his interpretation of his terms of reference, and on the fact that he was a sole commissioner, that he would not (with one exception) review and relocate existing electoral district boundary lines. He offered his own interpretation of the expression "equitable and effective representation," concluding that:
- "equitable representation" denotes the concept of comparative fairness among electoral districts – the people of each region are given a voice of comparable strength in the Legislative Assembly; and,
- "effective representation" denotes the concept of access by the constituent to the member, and the member to the constituent – maintaining personal contact between the two is imperative if the representative is to stand for or act for the constituent.

Mr. Warren developed a novel method for calculating the number of MLAs that an electoral district should have, based on population and geographical area. Applying that formula, he recommended that, on an interim basis:
- Surrey be increased from two MLAs to three MLAs; and,
- a second MLA be added to six electoral districts: North Peace River, Cariboo, Kamloops, Okanagan South, Delta and Richmond.

He also recommended a change to the boundary between two Vancouver electoral districts. An earlier commission had used Arbutus Street as the dividing line between its proposed Vancouver–Point Grey and Vancouver–Little Mountain electoral districts, but had extended its proposed Vancouver–Little Mountain electoral district west of Arbutus in one area (bounded by 33rd Avenue, Macdonald Street and 23rd Avenue). This oddly shaped protuberance had become known colloquially as "Gracie's finger," amid accusations of gerrymandering. Mr. Warren characterized such allegations as "inconclusive and unsubstantiated charges," but recommended the return of the disputed area to Vancouver–Point Grey for historical reasons, to equalize the population between the two electoral districts, and to end the bitter partisan attacks.

Finally, Mr. Warren recommended the establishment of a permanent electoral commission, to address the lack of credibility of a "government-appointed" commission such as his, and to provide for regular and demonstrably impartial boundary reviews.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt Mr. Warren's recommendations respecting the addition of an MLA to seven existing electoral districts, or adjusting the boundary between Vancouver–Little Mountain and Vancouver–Point Grey. However, the Legislative Assembly did act on his recommendation to establish an electoral boundaries commission, which warrants a brief discussion.

In May 1984 the Legislative Assembly passed enabling legislation, providing for the appointment of an independent and permanent electoral commission.[13] The three-person commission would consist of the chief electoral officer, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and a provincial court judge. It was not the task of the commission to redraw electoral boundaries generally; rather, it was instructed to recommend whether:

- a one-member electoral district should be changed into a two-member electoral district; and,
- a two-member electoral district should be divided into three new one-member electoral districts, in which case the commission should recommend boundaries so that each electoral district had approximately equal population.

The commission should recommend one of these changes if the electoral district's population exceeded that district's "electoral district base" by at least 60 percent. The *Act* set out a complicated mathematical formula for calculating each electoral district base:

- On the Mainland, electoral districts were categorized into metropolitan, suburban, urban-rural, interior-coastal and remote districts, and the average Vancouver district population was multiplied by a specified percentage, ranging from 200 percent for densely populated areas to 85 percent for sparsely populated areas.
- On Vancouver Island, electoral districts were categorized into metropolitan, urban-rural and interior-coastal districts, and the average Victoria and Oak Bay–Gordon Head district population was multiplied by a specified percentage, ranging from 200 percent for densely populated areas to 85 percent for sparsely populated areas.

This legislation was subsequently the subject of the court challenge in ***Dixon v. British Columbia (A.G.)***,[14] which we will discuss in the next section of this report.

c. The McAdam Commission

In June 1984 the provincial government appointed a three-person electoral commission consisting of Provincial Court Judge D. Kennedy McAdam (Chair), with Harry Goldberg (Chief Electoral Officer) and Ian Horne (Clerk of the Legislative Assembly). Applying the 1984 legislative amendments, the commission recommended that:

- eleven one-member electoral districts be increased to two members each:
  - Boundary-Similkameen
  - Cariboo
  - Central Fraser Valley
  - Delta
  - Dewdney
  - Kamloops
  - Langley
  - Nanaimo
  - Okanagan South
  - Richmond
  - Saanich and the Islands, and
- the two-member riding of Surrey be divided into three separate electoral districts, to be known as:
  - Surrey–Guildford–Whalley
  - Surrey-Newton, and
  - Surrey–White Rock–Cloverdale.

---

[13] *Constitution Amendment Act, 1984*, SBC 1984, c. 12.

[14] (1989), 59 D.L.R. (4th) 247 (B.C.S.C.). The formula set out in the *Act* favoured non-urban voters. The scheme produced deviations ranging from minus 86.8 percent to plus 63.2 percent, and 19 of the 69 electoral districts had deviations exceeding plus or minus 25 percent. In **Dixon**, Chief Justice McLachlin struck down the legislation, as violating the right to vote under s. 3 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

[15] *First Report of the British Columbia Electoral Commission*, September 1984.

In 1985 the Legislative Assembly increased the number of MLAs from 57 to 69,[16] by adopting Judge McAdam's recommendations that:

- the two-member Surrey riding be replaced with three separate single-member ridings; and,
- the 11 single-member ridings identified by Judge McAdam be converted into dual-member electoral districts.

[illegible] The Fisher [illegible]

In April 1987 the Honourable Judge Thomas K. Fisher was appointed under the *Inquiry Act*, with a limited mandate to eliminate the 17 two-member electoral districts:

- to inquire into the composition of those electoral districts that now return two members to the Legislative Assembly and into the composition of the electoral districts that are contiguous to those electoral districts that now return two members; and,
- to recommend the establishment of new electoral districts, each returning one member to the Legislative Assembly, to replace those that now return two members to the Legislative Assembly.

In recommending the establishment of the new one-member districts and adjustments to the boundaries of contiguous electoral districts, Judge Fisher was instructed to have regard to:

- the principle of the electoral quota, that is to say, the quotient obtained by dividing the population of the province, as ascertained by the most recent population figures published by Statistics Canada, pursuant to the *Statistics Act* (Canada), by the total number of members of the Legislative Assembly;
- historical and regional claims for representation;
- special geographic considerations including the sparsity or density of population of various regions, the accessibility to such regions or the size or shape thereof;
- special community interests of the inhabitants of particular regions; and,
- the need for a balance of community interests.

In August 1987, the commissioner advised the government of an ambiguity in his terms of reference – whether his mandate extended to all boundaries of contiguous districts, or only the boundaries of such districts that were contiguous with the 17 two-member districts. He recommended that he be authorized to consider all electoral districts in the province.

In September 1987, Judge Fisher's terms of reference were expanded. The factors that he was to consider, set out in his original order-in-council, were affirmed, but he was now mandated to recommend:

- the appropriate number of electoral districts each returning one member for the Legislative Assembly; and,
- the establishment, including boundaries, of electoral districts.

Judge Fisher ultimately recommended that the number of MLAs be increased from 69 to 75. He also decided that, in drawing boundaries, he would not deviate more than plus or minus 25 percent from strict population equality, noting that a 25 percent tolerance level was the standard established federally and in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Newfoundland. He concluded that 75 MLAs and a 25 percent deviation were required in order to provide "fair and effective representation" to the people of British Columbia. This expression was not used in Judge Fisher's terms of reference, but had been used in the orders-in-council establishing earlier commissions. He also recommended that legislation be enacted to provide for the establishment of a new, independent, non-partisan statutory electoral boundaries commission.

---

[16] *Constitution Amendment Act, 1985*, SBC 1985, c. 3.

[17] *Preliminary Report of Proposed Boundaries for British Columbia Electoral Districts*, May 1988, and *Report of the Royal Commission on Electoral Boundaries for British Columbia*, December 1988.

In the Lower Mainland and on Vancouver Island, Judge Fisher proposed the addition of six new electoral districts because of increases in population in Burnaby, North Vancouver, Surrey (two), Richmond and Parksville. He maintained the number of MLAs in northern and rural BC. He also proposed converting the existing 17 two-member ridings into single-member ridings.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the 75 electoral districts recommended by Judge Fisher.[18]

Judge Thomas Fisher

The Legislative Assembly also acted on Judge Fisher's recommendation for new legislation. It repealed the permanent electoral commission legislation enacted in 1984, and enacted a new *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*,[19] which remains substantially unchanged today. In determining boundaries, future commissions were to be governed by the following principles, set out in section 9(1):

a) That the principle of representation by population be achieved, recognizing the imperatives imposed by geographical and demographic realities, the legacy of our history and the need to balance the community interests of the people of the British Columbia;
b) To achieve that principle, the commission be permitted to deviate from a common statistical provincial electoral quota by no more than 25 percent, plus or minus; and,
c) The commission be permitted to exceed the 25 percent deviation principle where it considers that very special circumstances exist.[20]

---

[18] *Electoral Districts Act*, SBC 1990, c. 39, Schedule 2.

[19] SBC 1989, c. 65.

[20] In 1996 the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* was amended (SBC 1996, c. 18), giving the next commission the authority to make proposals for an increase in the number of electoral districts, up to a maximum of 81. In making such a proposal, the commission was instructed to take into account the following:

(a) geographic and demographic considerations, including the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia and the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia; and,

(b) the availability of means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

In the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005*, SBC 2005, C. 30, the *Act* was amended to give the current commission the authority to make proposals for an increase in the number of electoral districts, up to 85.

H. The Wood Commission (1999)[21]

The Wood Commission (Josiah Wood, Q.C., Rev. Katherine Hough and Robert Patterson, chief electoral officer) was the first commission to be appointed under the new *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*. It was authorized to propose an increase in electoral districts, from the existing 75 up to and not more than 81.

There had been a 29 percent increase in B.C.'s population over the preceding 10 years, primarily in the Okanagan, Fraser Valley and the east coast of Vancouver Island. When the commission applied 1996 census data to the existing 75 electoral districts, it discovered that 26 were now outside the plus or minus 25 percent deviation referred to in the legislation (nine were greater than plus 25 percent and 17 were greater than minus 25 percent). About 84 percent of the provincial population lived on only 14 percent of the land.

In addition to the legislative criteria, the commission developed nine subsidiary principles that it considered relevant to the effective representation of British Columbians (downgraded to "goals" in the final report[22]):

1. preserve regional representation as far as possible – the commission wanted to ensure that its recommendations did not lead to the loss of an elected representative for any region of the province;
2. take historic and geographic regions into account as much as possible;
3. try to minimize change to electoral boundaries wherever possible;
4. try to keep the deviations from the electoral quota of electoral districts within a region to a similar range;
5. make use, wherever possible, of existing jurisdictional boundaries;
6. recommend, wherever possible, electoral boundaries which align with municipal boundaries;
7. propose, wherever possible, electoral districts with populations which are likely to remain within the statutory limit of a 25 percent deviation from the electoral quota until the next boundary review;
8. correct anomalies created by the present boundaries, wherever possible; and,
9. consider the impact of the proposed electoral boundaries on the affiliations of First Nations in the province – to propose boundaries which avoid dividing the populated reserves of any given Band between more than one electoral district.

The commission proposed an increase of four electoral districts, in Surrey (two), the Burnaby-Coquitlam area and the Abbotsford-Chilliwack area. It recognized that there were disparities in population among adjacent electoral districts in the Okanagan and on Vancouver Island, but decided that it was preferable to address those concerns by adjusting the boundaries of existing electoral districts, rather than adding new electoral districts in those areas. Indeed, it calculated that, if a fifth or sixth new electoral district were added, the addition(s) would occur in high-growth areas in the Lower Mainland and/or Fraser Valley, not the Okanagan or Vancouver Island. The commission's redistribution resulted in six of 79 electoral districts exceeding minus 25 percent deviation (five in the North and one in the East Kootenays), which the commission justified on the basis of "very special circumstances." Only one electoral district had a positive deviation of greater than 20 percent (North Island, at plus

---

[21] *Electoral Boundaries Commission – Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia*, December 3, 1998, and *Electoral Boundaries Commission – Amendments to the December 3, 1998 Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia*, June 3, 1999.

[22] The commission stated, at p. 16 of its final report: "It therefore bears emphasizing that the factors set out in our Statement of Principles represent goals we had in mind at the outset of our task, but which we quickly found often had to give way to our overriding obligation, both statutory and constitutional, to give effect to the principle of representation by population."

The Wood Commision and Counsel (Josiah Wood second from right)

21 percent). The final report concluded with this warning (from page 62):

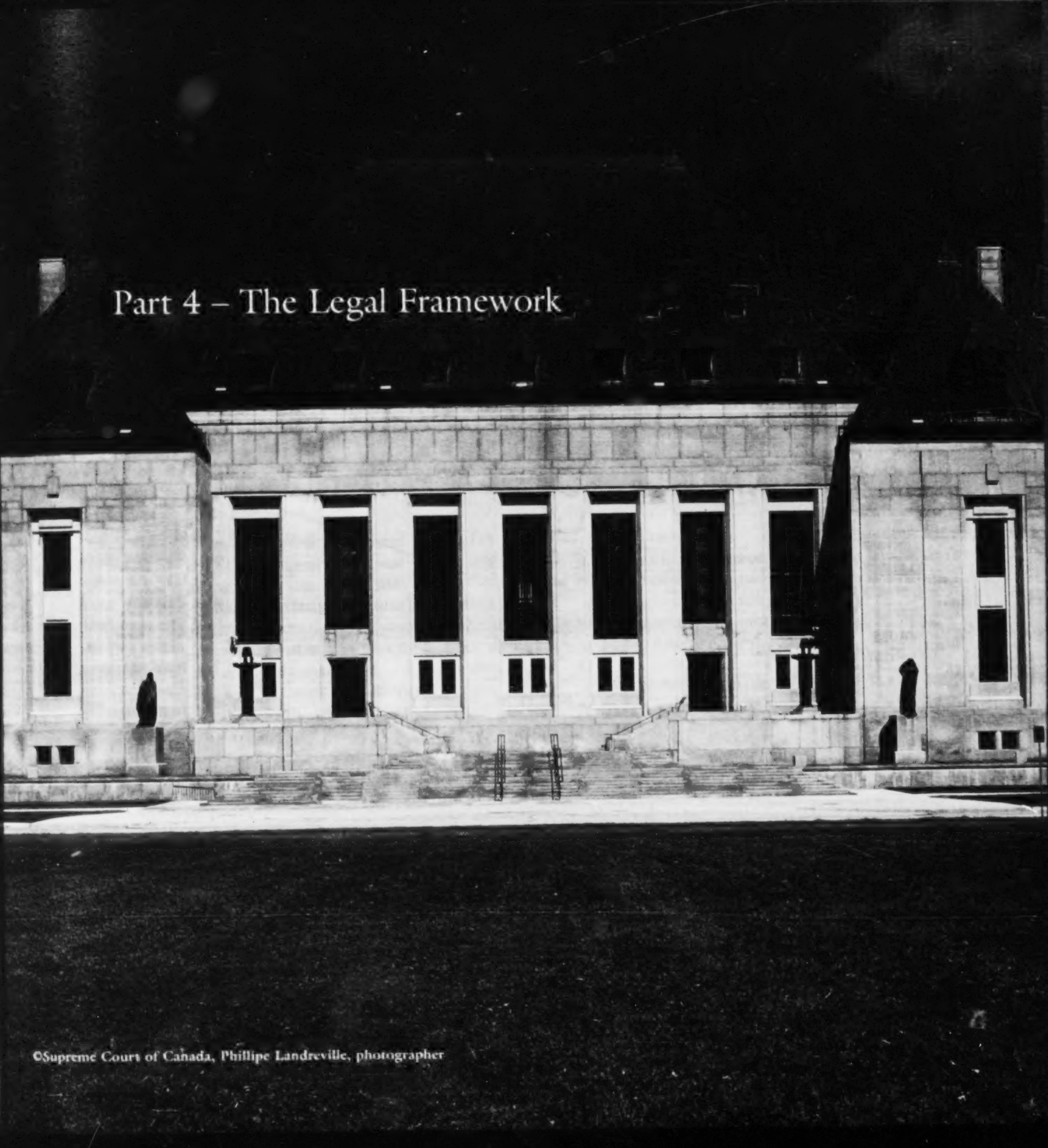
> [We] feel constrained to note that, in the absence of some statutory solution similar to that in place in Saskatchewan, by which the electoral representation of rural British Columbia can be guaranteed at its present level, the next commission may well find it impossible, under the current legislative framework, to avoid recommending a reduction in the number of electoral districts in the rural areas of the province.

In 1999 the Legislative Assembly adopted the Wood Commission's proposed 79 electoral districts, without change.[23]

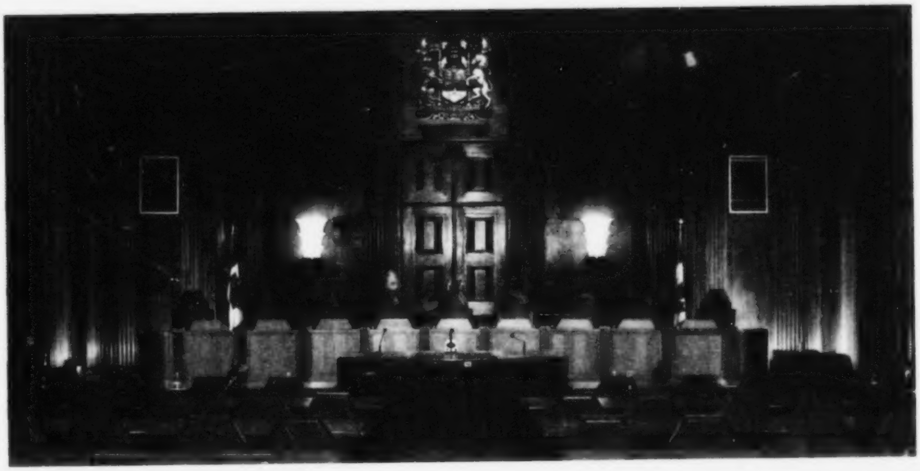
---

[23] *Electoral Districts Act*, SBC 1999, c. 31.

Part 4 – The Legal Framework



©Supreme Court of Canada, Phillipe Landreville, photographer



©Supreme Court of Canada,
Phillipe Landreville, photographer

Part 4 – The Legal Framework

In proposing electoral boundaries for British Columbia's Legislative Assembly, an electoral boundaries commission is governed by:

- the provincial *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*,[24]: and
- the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and Canadian court decisions interpreting various *Charter* provisions.

In this part of the report we will discuss both, since they articulate the legal principles and other factors that must be taken into account when drawing electoral boundaries.

A. British Columbia Legislation

The relevant B.C. legislation is set out in Appendices A and B of this report.

1. The current single member plurality (SMP) system[25]

The legislation[26] identifies two functions for our commission:

- make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the area, boundaries and names of the electoral districts; and,
- make proposals to the Legislative Assembly to increase the number of

---

[24] RSBC 1996, c. 107. See also the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005*, SBC 2005, c. 30

[25] The current B.C. electoral system is commonly described as a "single member plurality" system – "single member" because multi-member districts were abolished in B.C. in 1988, following the report of the Hon. Judge Thomas K. Fisher, and "plurality" because it is a first-past-the-post system in which the candidate receiving the most votes is elected, even if he or she receives less than 50 percent of the votes cast.

[26] RSBC 1996, c. 107, s. 3.

electoral districts up to a maximum of 85, if the commission considers that the number of electoral districts should be increased.

We will discuss each of these functions separately, because the factors that we must consider vary with each function.

a. The area, boundaries and names of the electoral districts

Under section 9(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, the Commission must be governed by three principles when determining the area to be included in, and fixing the boundaries of, proposed electoral districts:

- that the principle of representation by population be achieved, recognizing the imperatives imposed by:
  - geographical realities;
  - demographic realities;
  - the legacy of our history; and,
  - the need to balance the community interests of the people of British Columbia;
- to achieve the principle of representation by population, the commission is permitted to deviate from a common statistical provincial electoral quota[27] by no more than 25 percent, plus or minus; and,
- the commission is permitted to exceed the 25 percent deviation principle where it considers that very special circumstances exist.

The legislation does not define the term "very special circumstances," and we have found no other Canadian legislation in which this term is used. However, federal and New Brunswick legislation uses the term "extraordinary" circumstances, Quebec refers to "exceptional reasons," and Newfoundland and Labrador uses the term "special geographical considerations." Later in this report[28] we will discuss how the notion of an "outside the normal limits" category has been used across Canada, and how we have interpreted and applied the phrase "very special circumstances" in the B.C. context.

b. Increasing the number of electoral districts

Under s. 9(2) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, the commission may propose an increase in the number of electoral districts (from the current 79 up to 85) if the commission considers that the number of electoral districts should be increased. In deciding whether to propose an increase, we must take two matters into account:

- geographic and demographic considerations, including:
  - the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia;
  - the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia; and,
- the availability of means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

2. The proposed single transferable vote (BC-STV) system

The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act*[29] instructs the commission to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly based on the single transferable vote system recommended by the British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform in its December 10, 2004 final report and its December 20, 2004 technical report. The commission must make proposals on:

- the areas, boundaries and names of the electoral districts under the BC-STV system; and,
- the number of MLAs for each of those electoral districts.

The legislation states that, when making our BC-STV proposals:

- we must propose the same number

---

[27] For reasons of simplicity and clarity, we will use the term "provincial electoral quotient" throughout this report, instead of the statutory "common statistical provincial electoral quota." The provincial electoral quotient is calculated by dividing the British Columbia population by the number of MLAs.

[28] See Part 5 (" 'Effective Representation' and 'Very Special Circumstances' ") on p. 42.

[29] *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005*, SBC 2005, c. 30, s. 4.

of MLAs as we propose under the single member plurality system; and,

- if we file an amendment to our report, and in that amendment we propose an increase in the number of MLAs under the current single member plurality system, we must also make the same increase in MLAs under our BC-STV proposals.[30]

3. Our commission only proposes

The legislation is clear that our commission's only power is to propose, and that the Legislative Assembly determines whether our proposals will become law. We submit our report and any amendments to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. In February 2008, our *Final Report*, (which will include any amendments) will be laid before the Assembly. Section 14 of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* provides that:

> If the Legislative Assembly, by resolution, approves or approves with alterations the proposals of the commission, the government must, at the same session, introduce a Bill to establish new electoral districts in accordance with the resolution.[31]

B. Legislation in Other Canadian Jurisdictions

There is legislation federally and in every other province and territory establishing a process for the creation of electoral boundaries. The most common scheme is the appointment of an independent electoral boundaries commission, as we have in British Columbia.

In most cases, the legislation sets out the principles and other factors that must be taken into account when determining the number of electoral districts, and the area, boundaries and names of electoral districts. In brief:

- 10 Canadian jurisdictions set a statutory limit on allowable deviation from the provincial average (ranging from plus or minus 5 percent to plus or minus 25 percent); and,
- nine Canadian jurisdictions permit greater deviations in some circumstances.

C. Court Decisions

Section 3 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* states:

> Every citizen of Canada has the right to vote in an election of members of the House of Commons or of a legislative assembly and to be qualified for membership therein.

Sweeping in its simplicity and apparently unqualified in its scope, the "right to vote" has been the subject of much judicial interpretation over the past two decades. A clear understanding of this constitutional guarantee is crucial to our boundary setting exercise.

1. The Supreme Court of Canada's interpretation of the right to vote

In the context of setting electoral boundaries, the leading Canadian judicial authority on the meaning of the right to vote is the Supreme Court of Canada's 1991 decision in the ***Saskatchewan Reference*** case.[32] The Saskatchewan *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* had given the commission very specific instructions, including the following:

---

[30] Section 4(4) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act* directs that sections 11 – 15 of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* apply, in relation to the commission's BC-STV proposals. Sections 11–15 deal with public and MLA hearings, the filing of amendments to the commission's report, tabling of the commission's report in the Legislative Assembly and tabling a bill to establish new electoral districts.

Significantly, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act* does not explicitly incorporate s. 9(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, which sets out the principles and other factors that the commission must take into account in determining the number of electoral districts, and the area, boundary and name of each district. However, we are satisfied that we should apply the s. 9(1) criteria when engaged in the BC-STV boundary setting exercise, subject of course to the overriding constitutional imperative of ensuring effective representation.

[31] For the legislation enacted by the Legislative Assembly following the 1999 Wood Commission, see the *Electoral Districts Act*, SBC 1999, c. 31.

[32] ***Ref. re Electoral Boundaries Commission Act (Sask.)*** (1991), 81 D.L.R. (4th) 16 (S.C.C.).

"Every citizen of Canada has the right to vote in an election of members of the House of Commons or of a legislative assembly and to be qualified for membership therein."
Section 3 *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*

- create two electoral districts north of a "dividing line" (about half of the province);
- south of that dividing line, create 29 urban electoral districts and 35 rural electoral districts;
- urban electoral districts should not extend beyond municipal boundaries;
- no northern electoral district should vary by more than 50 percent from the provincial average;
- no southern district should vary by more than 25 percent from the provincial average; and,
- in setting boundaries, the commission should consider sparsity, density or relative rate of growth, special geographic features, community or diversity of interests and other similar factors.

Speaking for a majority of the Court, Justice McLachlin concluded that the electoral boundaries created under these rules did not violate s. 3 of the *Charter*. For our commission's purposes, this decision is important primarily because of its thorough examination of the meaning of the "right to vote" under s. 3. Justice McLachlin characterized the issue before the Court as a contest between two competing values – equality of voting power and effective representation. She concluded that: "the purpose of the right to vote enshrined in s. 3 of the *Charter* is not equality of voting power *per se*, but the right to 'effective representation' " (p. 35). In her view, "effective representation" meant two things:

- **Relative parity of voting power:** a system which dilutes one citizen's vote unduly as compared to another citizen's vote runs the risk of providing inadequate representation to the citizen whose vote is diluted.
- **Countervailing factors:** it is a practical fact that effective representation often cannot be achieved without taking into account other factors. Justice McLachlin identified two:
  - absolute parity is impossible, because voters die and voters move; and,
  - even relative parity may prove undesirable, because it has the effect of detracting from the primary goal of effective representation. She stated:

> Factors like geography, community history, community interests and minority representation may need to be taken into account to ensure that our legislative assemblies effectively represent the diversity of our social mosaic. These are but examples of considerations which may justify departure from absolute voter parity in the pursuit of more effective representation; the list is not closed.

Justice McLachlin then referred to her earlier decision in ***Dixon***.[33] In that case she had, as Chief Justice of the B.C. Supreme Court, struck down legislation that had classified electoral districts into two broad groups – the Mainland and Vancouver Island. Each group was further subdivided into metropolitan, suburban, urban-rural, interior-coastal and remote categories, and each of these categories was assigned a specific population quota, which resulted in relatively greater weight to non-urban votes. The scheme produced deviations ranging from minus 86.8 percent to plus 63.2 percent. Nineteen of the 69 electoral districts had deviations exceeding plus or minus 25 percent.

---

[33] ***Dixon v. British Columbia (A.G.)*** (1989), 59 D.L.R. (4th) 247 (B.C.S.C.).

Chief Justice McLachlin decided that only those deviations should be admitted that can be justified on the ground that they contribute to better government of the populace as a whole, giving due weight to regional issues within the populace and geographic factors within the territory governed. With respect to under-populated areas, she stated in the ***Saskatchewan Reference***, at p. 38:

> [E]ffective representation and good government in this country compel those charged with setting electoral boundaries sometimes to take into account factors other than voter parity, such as geography and community interests. The problems of representing vast, sparsely populated territories, for example, may dictate somewhat lower voter populations in these districts; to insist on voter parity might deprive citizens with distinct interests of an effective voice in the legislative process as well as of effective assistance from their representatives in their "ombudsman" role. This is only one of a number of factors which may necessitate deviation from the "one person – one vote" rule in the interests of effective representation.

Turning to the Saskatchewan legislation and the boundaries drawn by the commission, Justice McLachlin decided that the constraints placed upon the commission by the legislation did not result in the commission acting arbitrarily. The allocation of seats between urban and rural districts was very close to the population distribution between those areas, and any deviations were relatively small.

She also found that the distribution of electoral districts itself did not violate s. 3. Variances between southern districts fell within plus or minus 25 percent, which was reasonable in this case for several reasons:

- The evidence before the Court suggested that rural districts are more difficult to service because of difficulty in transport and communications, and rural voters place greater demands on their elected representatives.
- Rivers and municipal boundaries form natural community dividing lines and hence natural electoral boundaries.
- Projected population changes over the life of the commission's boundaries may justify deviation from strict equality.

Two subsequent Supreme Court of Canada decisions assist in the interpretation of the right to vote. In ***Haig***,[34] the applicant argued that his right to vote under s. 3 of the *Charter* had been infringed. The federal government had directed that a referendum be held but Haig, who had recently moved from Ontario to Quebec, did not meet the Quebec residency requirement, and was no longer eligible to vote in Ontario. The Court ruled that the right to vote under s. 3 did not extend to voting in a referendum. For a majority of the Court, Justice LaForest cited with approval the Court's decision in the ***Saskatchewan Reference***, and then added:

> 63 The purpose of s. 3 of the *Charter* is, then, to grant every citizen of this country the right to play a meaningful role in the selection of elected representatives who, in turn, will be responsible for making decisions embodied in legislation for which they will be accountable to their electorate.

In ***Figueroa***,[35] the leader of the Communist Party challenged provisions in the *Canada Elections Act* that denied benefits to political parties that did not nominate at least 50 candidates in a federal election. For a majority of the Court, Justice Iacobucci struck down several sections of the *Act*, finding that they had infringed Figueroa's s. 3 rights. He stated:

> 30 In the final analysis, I believe that the Court was correct in ***Haig***, supra, to define s. 3 with reference to the right of each citizen to play a meaningful role in the electoral process. Democracy, of course, is a form of government in which sovereign power resides in the people as a whole. In our system of democracy, this means that each citizen must have a genuine opportunity to take part in the governance of the country through participation in the selection of

---

[34] ***Haig v. Canada (Chief Electoral Officer)***, [1993] 2 S.C.R. 995 (S.C.C.).

[35] ***Figueroa v. Canada (Attorney General)*** (2003), 227 D.L.R. (4th) 1 (S.C.C.).

> elected representatives. The fundamental purpose of s. 3, in my view, is to promote and protect the right of each citizen to play a meaningful role in the political life of the country. Absent such a right, ours would not be a true democracy.

2. Applying the Supreme Court of Canada's interpretation provincially

Several provincial trial and appellate courts have been faced with legal challenges to electoral boundaries legislation, or to boundaries drawn by commissions, and so have been called upon to apply the Supreme Court of Canada's general interpretation of s. 3. We have summarized these decisions in Appendix C, as they provide some insight into how the courts have applied the Supreme Court of Canada's interpretation of the right to vote to specific fact situations.

D. Summary of Legal Principles Governing Us

From our review of the legislation and court decisions referred to above, we have identified several legal principles that guide us as we embark on our boundary setting task.

We must start with the Supreme Court of Canada's discussion about the right of citizens to "effective representation," and their right to play a meaningful role in the selection of elected representatives. Effective representation begins with relative equality of voting power – a system that dilutes one citizen's vote unduly as compared to another citizen's vote runs the risk of providing inadequate representation to the citizen whose vote is diluted.

However, there may be circumstances in which relative equality of voting power must yield to other factors to ensure effective representation of voters in a particular geographic area. Factors that may warrant deviation from the provincial electoral quotient include (but are not necessarily limited to) geography, community history, community interests and minority representation. Those notions are captured in the B.C. legislation, albeit with slightly different language: geographical and demographic realities, the legacy of our history, and the need to balance the community interests of the people of British Columbia.

We are permitted to deviate from the provincial electoral quotient by up to plus or minus 25 percent. That does not mean, however, that any deviation within this range is automatically acceptable. Any deviation must be justified, and our view is that the closer we get to the maximum deviation, the more persuasive the justification should be. Having said that, we should not arbitrarily limit ourselves to some lesser deviation.

We may exceed the plus or minus 25 percent deviation principle in "very special circumstances." We find no difference in substance between the

B.C. legislative language, and the "extraordinary" or "exceptional" standard adopted in several other Canadian jurisdictions. The challenge comes, of course, in deciding when to apply this concept to a specific geographical area.

We should respect the existence of community interests, but they do not, of themselves, justify deviation from voter parity. If constituents with a community interest can achieve effective representation without deviation, then no deviation is justified.

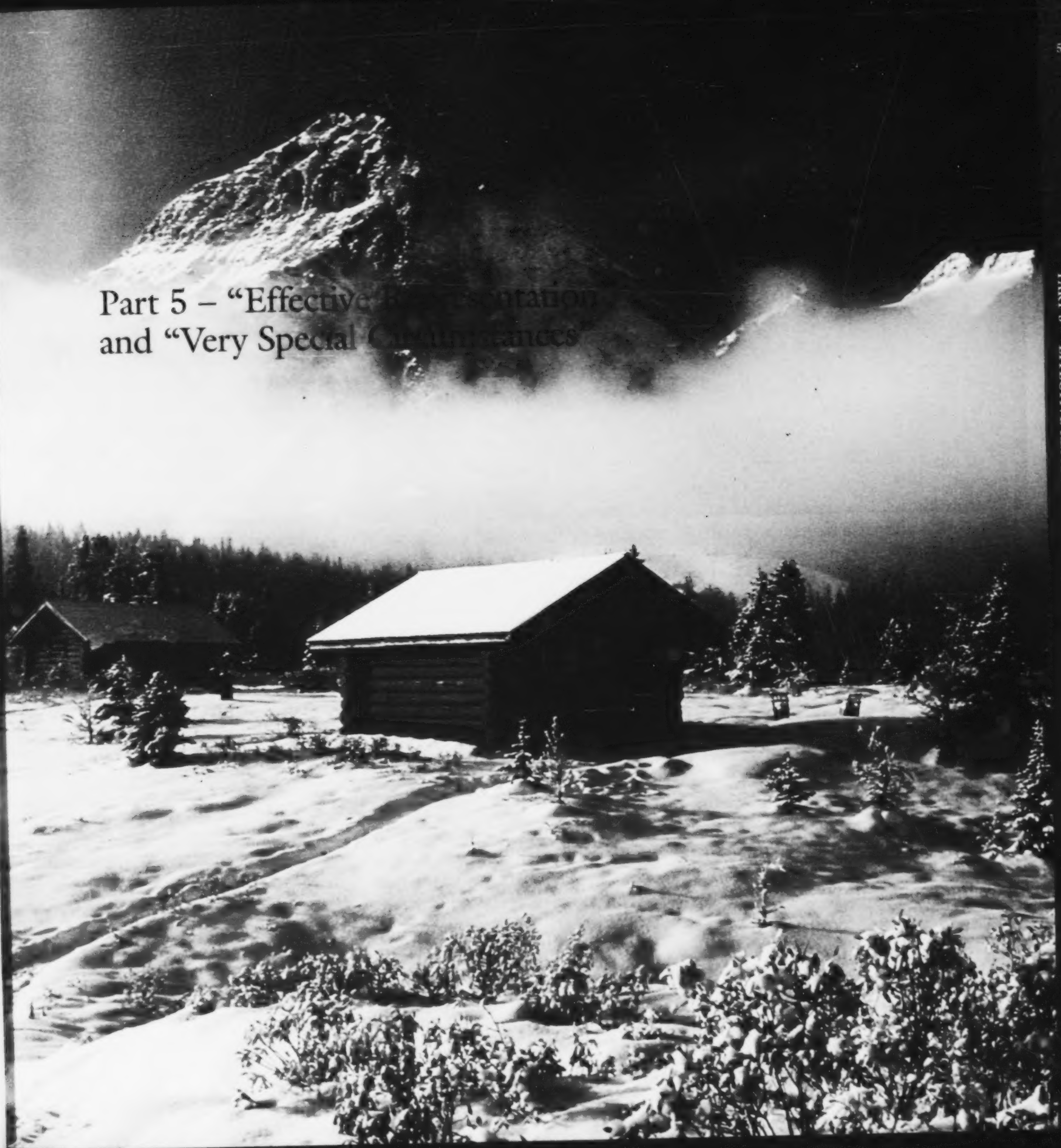
Constituents in an area of lower population density do not have an automatic right to expect greater electoral representation; the case for greater electoral representation must be justified on a case-by-case basis. For example, if it is contended that it is more difficult for an MLA to service a particular type of electoral district (rural or urban), that contention must be supported by evidence. Even if some degree of over-representation of rural voters is required in order for those voters to receive effective representation, we must ensure that such over-representation does not result in the gross under-representation of voters in some urban areas. In other words, we cannot permit the violation of urban voters' *Charter* rights, in order to ensure that rural voters' *Charter* rights are not violated.

When considering whether to increase the number of electoral districts, we must consider the criteria set out in the legislation:

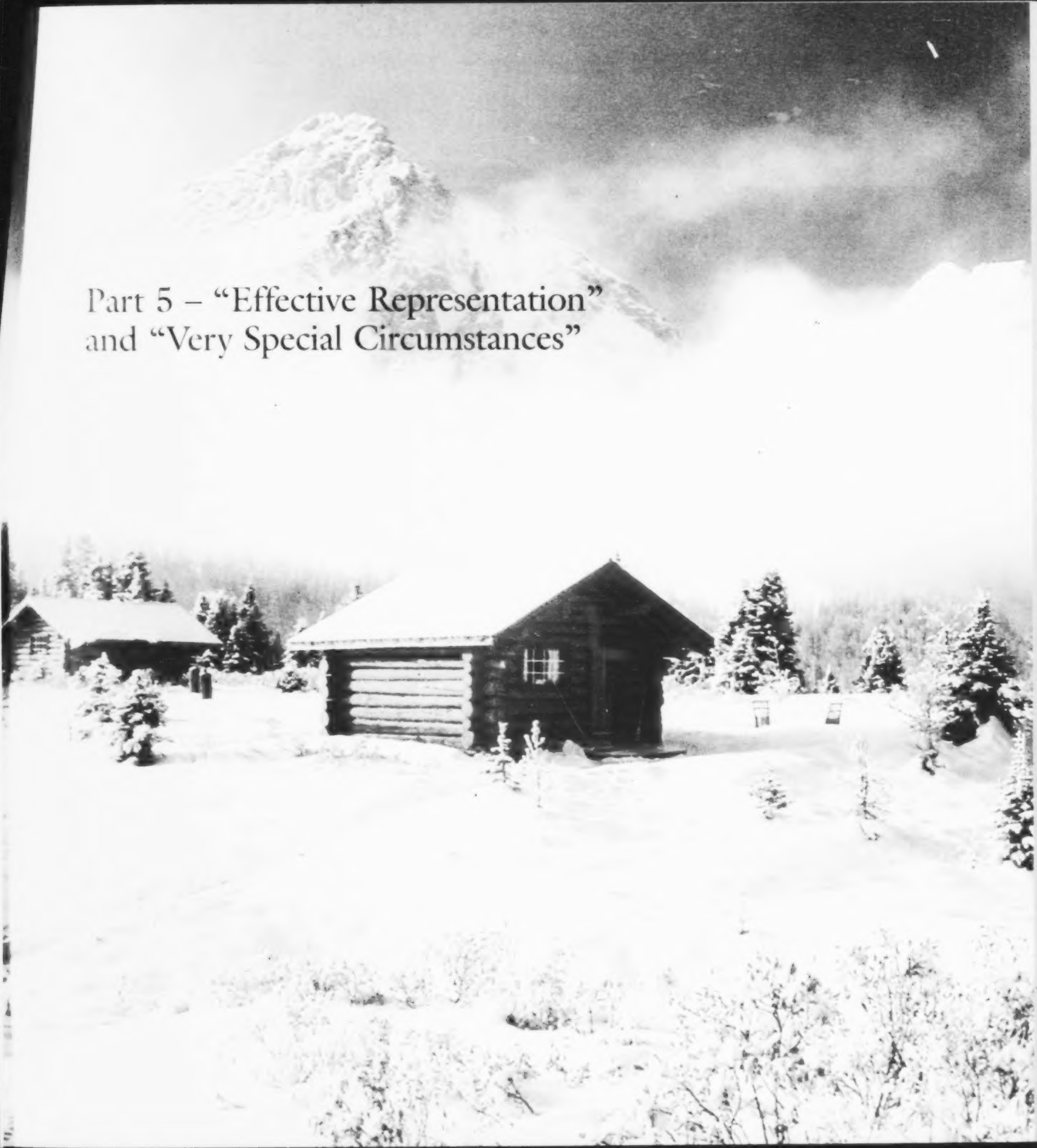
- geographic and demographic considerations, including:
    - the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia;
    - the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia; and,
- the availability of means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

In addition to the legal principles that govern us, we will discuss in the pages ahead several other tools that we can rely on, to assist in our boundary setting activities. For example, we will refer occasionally to population projections (provided by BC Stats), when we consider it prudent to do so. We will also combine individual electoral districts into regional groupings to assist in our analysis. All previous electoral boundaries commissions did so, and in the ***Dixon*** decision discussed earlier, Chief Justice McLachlin talked about "giving due weight to regional issues."

Part 5 – "Effective Representation" and "Very Special Circumstances"



Part 5 – "Effective Representation" and "Very Special Circumstances"



Part 5 –"Effective Representation" and "Very Special Circumstances"

A. Our Understanding of "Effective Representation"

What do we mean when we say that constituents are entitled to effective representation? If changes are made to an electoral district's boundaries, at what point do the constituents living in that district cease to receive effective representation? These are crucial questions to address before we embark on our boundary-setting task.

Our analysis begins with the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in the ***Saskatchewan Reference*** case, where Justice McLachlin stated: "the purpose of the right to vote enshrined in s. 3 of the *Charter* is not equality of voting power *per se*, but the right to 'effective representation.'"[36] In the Court's view this entailed two things – relative parity of voting power, and "countervailing factors," such as geography, community history, community interests and minority representation. The list is not closed; these are just examples of considerations that may justify departure from voter parity in the pursuit of more effective representation. The Supreme Court recognized that constituents look to their MLA for two purposes, to promote their interests through the legislative process, and to provide assistance in their dealings with the provincial bureaucracy – the "ombudsman" role.

---

[36] ***Ref. re Electoral Boundaries Commission Act (Sask.)*** (1991), 81 D.L.R. (4th) 16 (S.C.C.), on p. 35.

B.C. is among the group of jurisdictions that gives their electoral boundaries commissions the greatest latitude, adopting a plus or minus 25 percent deviation limit.

For an MLA to provide both functions effectively, the MLA must have enough time and resources to meet or communicate with constituents, understand their concerns, represent their interests in the legislative process and advocate on their behalf with the provincial bureaucracy. But how do we measure "enough time and resources"? During our public consultation, we were told that many factors should be considered, including:

- the number of constituents;
- the geography of the electoral district;
- the number of kilometres of paved roads;
- a constituent's accessibility to the MLA and the MLA's accessibility to constituents during the various seasons;
- commuting time to and from Victoria;
- the number of provincial issues confronting constituents;
- the availability of provincial government services in the constituency;
- the number of municipalities, regional districts, school districts, health districts and First Nations included within an electoral district; and,
- the various "community interests" found within an electoral district, including ethnic, religious and cultural groups, and the number of languages spoken by constituents.

Most of these are consistent with our statutory mandate. We ultimately concluded that our paramount guide in this area must be the statutory criteria set out in section 9(1)(a) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* – geographical and demographic considerations, the legacy of our history, and the need to balance the community interests of the people of B.C.

B. Our Approach to "Very Special Circumstances"

Section 9(1)(c) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* states that the commission is permitted: "to exceed the 25 percent deviation principle where it considers that very special circumstances exist." The *Act* does not define "very special circumstances," and our research has not disclosed any other Canadian legislation in which that exact expression is used. However, our review of electoral boundaries legislation reveals that almost all other Canadian jurisdictions permit deviations greater than the normal permissible limits, sometimes using expressions such as "extraordinary circumstances" (Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia[37]), "exceptional reasons" (Quebec) and "special geographical considerations" (Newfoundland and Labrador).[38]

The *Canadian Oxford Dictionary*[39] defines "special" as "particularly good, exceptional, out of the ordinary," so "very special" must be even more exceptional. It defines "exceptional" as "forming an exception, unusual," and defines "extraordinary" as "unusual, remarkable, out of the regular course or order, exceeding what is usual in amount, degree, extent or size." In our view, the meaning of these three expressions – very special, exceptional and extraordinary – is so close that they can be used interchangeably.

---

[37] There is no legislation governing the electoral boundaries commission in Nova Scotia. However, in 2001 the Select Committee on Establishing an Electoral Boundaries Commission established the Terms of Reference for the 2002 commission. The commission was not permitted to deviate by greater or lesser than 25 percent from the average number of electors per constituency, except in "extraordinary circumstances," which were stated to be the desire to promote minority representation by Nova Scotia's Acadian and Black communities.

[38] Three other jurisdictions that permit deviations greater than the normal permissible limits do not use this type of expression. In Alberta, up to four electoral districts may have deviations up to minus 50 percent, if they meet at least three statutory criteria. In Saskatchewan, there must be two electoral districts north of a "dividing line" set out in the legislation. In Manitoba, any electoral district north of the 53rd parallel may have a deviation up to plus or minus 25 percent.

[39] *The Canadian Oxford Dictionary*, 2nd ed., Katherine Barber, ed., Oxford University Press Canada, 2004.

We reviewed the frequency with which Canadian electoral boundaries commissions have recommended electoral districts that were beyond their normal range of permitted deviation in their most recent redistribution (see Table 1 on p. 45).

From this analysis, it is clear that all Canadian jurisdictions have created electoral districts with populations outside the normal negative deviation limits.

B.C. is among the group of jurisdictions that gives their electoral boundaries commissions the greatest latitude, adopting a plus or minus 25 percent deviation limit (see Table 2 on p. 46).[40]

Notwithstanding the challenges posed by our province's unique geography, demography and transportation circumstances, we believe that we should exceed that limit and resort to the "very special circumstances" legislative provision only in truly exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. We think that to do otherwise would debase the meaning of "very special."

As we will discuss later (see Part 7 – Regional Groupings), the legislation instructs us to design electoral boundaries on a district-by-district basis. While commissions have historically found it useful to group individual districts into regional groupings for some purposes, at the end of the day a decision about whether "very special circumstances" exist must be done at the individual district, not at regional level. Our interpretation of our mandate leads us to conclude that no region of the province has an automatic entitlement to "very special circumstances" status for some or all of its electoral districts. Neither do we believe that it would be appropriate for us to begin our boundary setting task with a presumption that each region of the province should be guaranteed its current level of representation. The Legislative Assembly could have made that our mandate – but it did not. Rather, we are governed by the overriding constitutional and legal requirement to strive for relative parity of voting power among electoral districts, and to deviate from parity only to the extent necessary to ensure effective representation.

---

[40] The jurisdictions that do not set a statutory limit are Nova Scotia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

TABLE 1: FREQUENCY OF "EXCEPTIONAL" DEVIATIONS ACROSS CANADA

Jurisdiction	Year of redistribution	Permitted deviation	Assembly size	"Exceptional" seats	"Exceptional" deviation	"Exceptional" districts as percent
Canada	2003	+/-25%	308	2	-43%, -62%	0.6
British Columbia	1999	+/-25%	79	6	-27% to -34%	7.6
Alberta	1999	+/-25%	83	1	-32%	1.2
Saskatchewan	2002	+/-5%	58	2	+12%, -22%	3.4
Manitoba	1999	+/-10%	57	2	-19%, -21%	3.5
Ontario [41]	2005	+/-25%	103	10	-25.3% to -34%	9.7
Quebec	2001	+/-25%	125	6	-29% to -76%	4.8
New Brunswick	2006	+/-10%	55	1	-20%	1.8
Nova Scotia	2002	+/-25%	52	4	-39% to -49%	7.7
P.E.I.	2006	+/-25%	27	1	-28%	3.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	2006	+/-10%	48	4	-13% to -71%	6.3
Yukon [42]	2002	+/-25%	18	4	+32% to -82%	22.2
Northwest Territories[43]	2006	+/-25%	19	4	-26% to -58%	21.1
Nunavut [44]	2006	+/-25%	23	3	+53% to -40%	13.0

---

[41] In Ontario, a provincial electoral boundaries commission does not determine its electoral districts. Currently, Ontario adopts the 103 federal electoral districts for its provincial Legislative Assembly. Beginning with the 2007 general election, that number will be increased to 107 – there will be 11 electoral districts in northern Ontario corresponding to the federal electoral districts created in the 1996 redistribution, and 96 electoral districts in southern Ontario corresponding to the federal electoral districts created in the 2004 redistribution

[42] Although the *Elections Act* is silent as to a maximum permissible deviation, the 2001–2002 Yukon Electoral Boundaries Commission decided to apply the plus or minus 25 percent deviation guideline because of the 1991 commission's precedent and because it has been referred to as the Canadian standard.

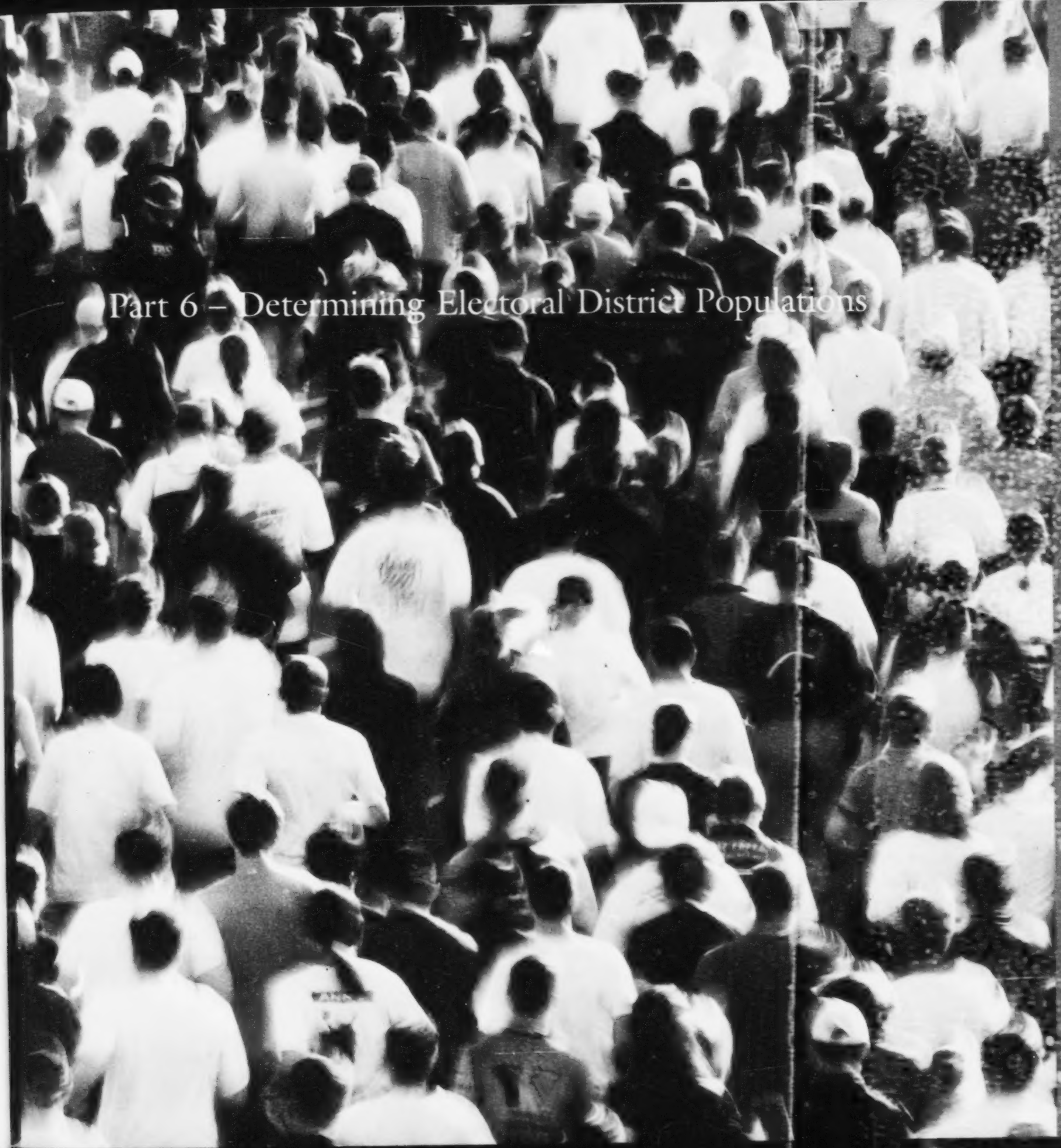
[43] Although the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* is silent as to a maximum permissible deviation, the NWT Commission adopted plus or minus 25 percent because it was the standard accepted by most Canadian jurisdictions. In addition, when the previous Legislature approved the current arrangement in 1999, it had as one of its goals that no electoral district should have a population outside that limit.

[44] The *Nunavut Elections Act* is silent as to a maximum permissible deviation. Although the 2006 commission did not set a limit, the 1997 commission adopted plus or minus 25 percent because it was the standard accepted by most Canadian jurisdictions.

TABLE 2: DEVIATION LIMITS ACROSS CANADA

Permitted Deviation	**Jurisdiction**
+/-5%	Saskatchewan (for all districts south of a "dividing line" set out in the legislation)
+/-10%	Manitoba (for all districts south of the 53rd parallel)
	New Brunswick
	Newfoundland and Labrador
+/-25%	Canada
	British Columbia
	Alberta
	Ontario (by adoption of federal electoral districts)
	Quebec
	Prince Edward Island

Part 6 – Determining Electoral District Populations



Part 6 – Determining Electoral District Populations

A. Calculating the Provincial Electoral Quotient

Throughout this report, we will refer frequently to the "provincial electoral quotient" or, in the words of the legislation governing us, "a common statistical Provincial electoral quota".[45] It is calculated by dividing the provincial population by the number of electoral districts. Every electoral district should be as close as possible to the provincial electoral quotient, except to the extent necessary to deviate from that quotient in order to ensure effective representation.

Calculating the provincial electoral quotient is a simple arithmetic exercise. However, we also must decide what data pool to use in determining the provincial population. Should it be the total provincial population as determined, for example, by the federal census, or should it be the total number of British Columbians entitled to vote in a provincial election, or perhaps the smaller number who actually do vote?

The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* does not state explicitly whether the commission should rely on elector data or population data. The 1999 Wood Commission (the first commission governed by the current *Electoral*

---

[45] *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act.*

Boundaries Commission Act) relied on census data, without any indication in its reports that it had considered using voter data.[46]

We reviewed the electoral boundaries legislation across Canada, and found that of the 14 jurisdictions (10 provinces, three territories and the federal government):

- Seven require the electoral boundaries commission to rely on census data – Canada, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario (by adoption of federal boundaries), New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Three require the electoral boundaries commission to rely on registered voter data – Quebec, Prince Edward Island and Nunavut.
- Two are silent – British Columbia and Nova Scotia.
- Two require the electoral boundaries commission to take into account census and elector data – Yukon and Northwest Territories.

1. Census data

Using census data would have several advantages:

- **It is current:** The most recent federal census took place on May 16, 2006, and BC Stats provided us with the 2006 population data in March 2007. It is unquestionably the most up-to-date population data available.
- **It is authoritative:** Since the census is Canada's only legally enforced population count, it is the most accurate population data pool available to us.
- **It is useful:** The census breaks down population into very small segments, called "census blocks." In British Columbia, there are 52,798 census blocks (2006 census). In an urban area, one city block of single-family dwellings (or one apartment block) may constitute one census block. In rural areas, a census block will be much larger. Having access to population data at a census block level is indispensable to an electoral boundaries commission. Through the use of computer software developed by Elections Canada (known as the Commission Redistricting Tool), we are able to calculate the population of a given geographical area (of one or more census blocks) within seconds.

The only significant disadvantage to using census population data is the "undercount." We know that some people do not complete their census forms – this shortfall is known as the undercount. From previous experience, it is estimated that the undercount amounts to approximately 4 percent. Although Statistics Canada will adjust the 2006 census figures to take into account this undercount, that adjustment is the result of extensive analysis and will not be available to us in time for this commission's work. Even when it does become available, the adjusted census population data will not be broken down to the census block level.

2. Voter count data

We also examined the use of voter count data. In the 2005 general election, there were 2,845,284 registered voters at the close of general voting, and 1,774,269 of them actually voted. While we could use either of these voter data pools (as five other Canadian jurisdictions do), there are several disadvantages in doing so. First, these data pools give us only the number of voters, not the total population. On the one hand, section 3 of the *Charter* focuses on the right of Canadian citizens to vote, and our provincial *Election Act* limits the right to vote to Canadian citizens aged 18 or older who have resided in British Columbia for the preceding six months. In that sense, using voter count data has a certain appeal, as it would lead to electoral districts being designed with voters in mind. However, once elected, an MLA does not represent just the voters in his or her constituency. An MLA represents all constituents, including recent immigrants, children and itinerant or seasonal workers from other provinces. Reliance on voter count data implies that some constituents do not count, or at least should not be counted when drawing boundaries.

---

[46] The 1988 Fisher Commission was instructed to use census data. The McAdam Commission (1984), Warren Commission (1982) and Eckardt Commission (1978) relied on population data. The Norris Commission (1975) referred to both registered voter data and population data, while the Angus Commission (1966) was instructed to use registered voter data.

Second, voter count data is not available at a census block level.

Having examined the alternatives, we are satisfied that the 2006 census data pool should be our primary source for calculating the provincial electoral quotient, which is crucial in establishing electoral districts.

B. The Changing Face of British Columbia

The 2006 census figures show there are now 4,113,487 people in British Columbia, a 5.3 percent increase over 2001 (very close to the national average) and an increase of 10.4 percent since 1996.

The census figures also show the province is the most urbanized in the nation – over 85.4 percent of the population lived in urban areas when the census was taken – while at the same time being home to the five communities with the fastest population declines in the country – Kitimat, Prince Rupert, Quesnel, Terrace and Williams Lake.

Population growth has been uneven across the province and it has made the population disparity among electoral districts even more pronounced. For example, the number of electoral districts with a population more than 25 percent below the provincial electoral quotient has increased from six to 13 (minus 28 percent to minus 51 percent) since the last commission, and there are now four other electoral districts with a population more than 25 percent above the provincial electoral quotient (plus 28 percent to plus 53 percent).

Looking at BC Stats population projections to the year 2013 (the second election under our proposed electoral districts), B.C. can expect to see a comparable overall rate of growth, with most of that growth occurring in the Lower Mainland, the Okanagan and the east coast of Vancouver Island. (see Appendices O to R)

Part 7 — Regional Groupings

Part 7 – Regional Groupings

A. British Columbia's Regions

The legislation under which we operate focuses exclusively on individual electoral districts, and instructs us to make our electoral boundary proposals on a district-by-district basis. As you will see in the pages ahead, we have approached our task in that way.

However, we also recognize regional influences. In *Geography of British Columbia*, Capilano College geography instructor Brett McGillivray aptly describes British Columbia as a "region of regions":[47]

> From a regional perspective, British Columbia is a unique province within Canada for a variety of reasons. Physical characteristics set it apart from all other provinces. It has the youngest and highest mountains in the country and is often described as a vertical landscape. It also has the greatest amount of fresh water in Canada, an essential resource for the five species of Pacific salmon that also provides the potential for hydroelectric power. The highly indented coastline, "punctured by fjords," spans some 41,000 kilometres (Dearden 1987, 259). Weather and climate produce other distinctive patterns. The relatively mild, wet west coast, with the warmest winter temperatures in Canada, stands in contrast to the considerably colder and drier interior, with desert conditions in the southern river valleys. The interrelationship of climate,

---

[47] McGillivray, Brett, *Geography of British Columbia – People and Landscapes in Transition*, 2nd ed., Vancouver, UBC Press, 2005, pp. 7–8.

soils, and vegetation produces distinctive patterns from west to east in the province and also from the south to north because of the eleven-degree span of latitude. Vertical change due to high mountain ranges produces regional variations similar to latitudinal differences.

B. Previous Commissions' Regions

Since the 1960s, five of B.C.'s seven previous independent electoral boundaries commissions were tasked to reconfigure electoral boundaries across the entire province. In doing so, they made decisions at an individual electoral district level, but they were also alive to regional issues. Table 3 (below) shows the regional groupings adopted by those commissions.

During our public consultations across the province, when people

TABLE 3: REGIONAL GROUPINGS

	Angus (1966)	**Norris (1975)**	**Eckardt (1978)**	**Fisher (1988)**	**Wood (1999)**
North	Northern	Northern	Northern	The North	• Northwest • Peace • Prince George
Kootenays	Kootenays	Kootenays	Kootenays	Kootenays	Kootenays
Cariboo	West Central	Central	Interior	Central Interior and and Okanagan Area	Cariboo
Interior					Southern Interior
Okanagan	Okanagan	Okanagan			Okanagan
Fraser Valley	Lower Mainland outside Greater Vancouver	Fraser Valley	Fraser Valley	Lower Mainland	Fraser Valley
Greater Vancouver	• Coast and North Vancouver • Metropolitan Vancouver	Greater Vancouver	Vancouver Metro		Greater Vancouver
South Coast	• Mackenzie and Northern Vancouver Island • Greater Victoria		Coastal	Coastal	South Coast
Vancouver Island		Vancouver Island	• Upper • Victoria • Metro	Vancouver Island	Vancouver Island

told us "I am a Northerner," or "I live in the East Kootenays," or "I am a renter in Vancouver's West End," they were telling us much more than their address. They were positioning themselves as members of a clearly identifiable geographical, economic and cultural community.

We found it useful to group current and proposed electoral districts for several reasons. First, grouping them can tell us a lot about where people live and work, their transportation routes, their shopping and trading patterns and their local governance divisions, such as municipalities and regional districts. To put it another way, groupings are an important consideration in ascertaining "community interests," one of the legislative factors we must take into account when drawing boundaries.

Second, regions will take on additional importance during the task of drawing proposed BC-STV boundaries, since these larger political divisions should, as much as possible, reflect regional community interests.

C. Our Regional Groupings

Although our legislative mandate is to set electoral boundaries on an individual electoral district basis, we have found it helpful to group individual electoral districts according to regional groupings during that process, as have previous commissions.

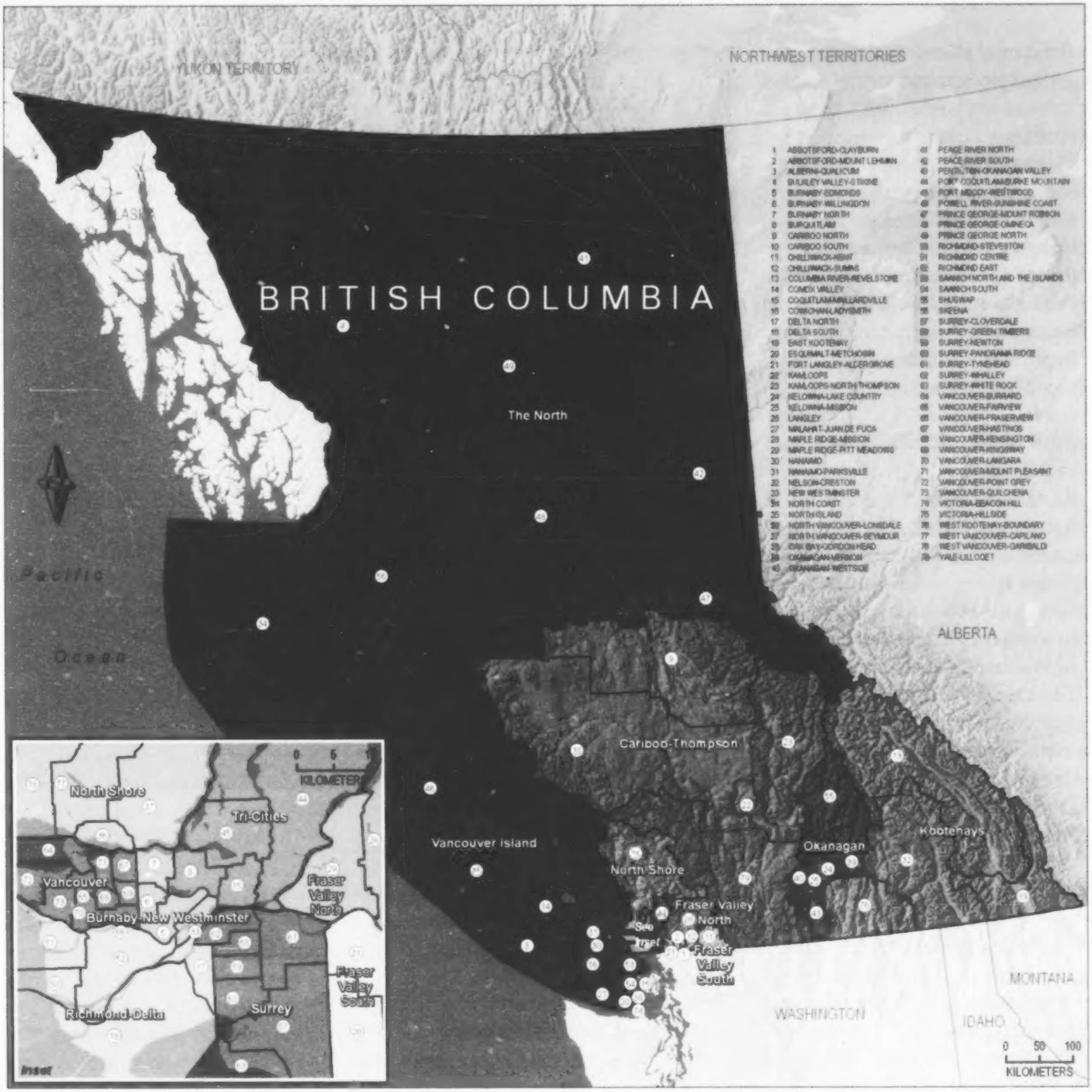
Using a similar approach to past commissions, we initially took the current 79 electoral districts and grouped them into the 12 regions that we have developed (see list on page 55; map on page 56).

As you will see in the pages ahead, the number of electoral districts within some of these regions, and the outer boundaries of these regions, will change as a result of our analysis.

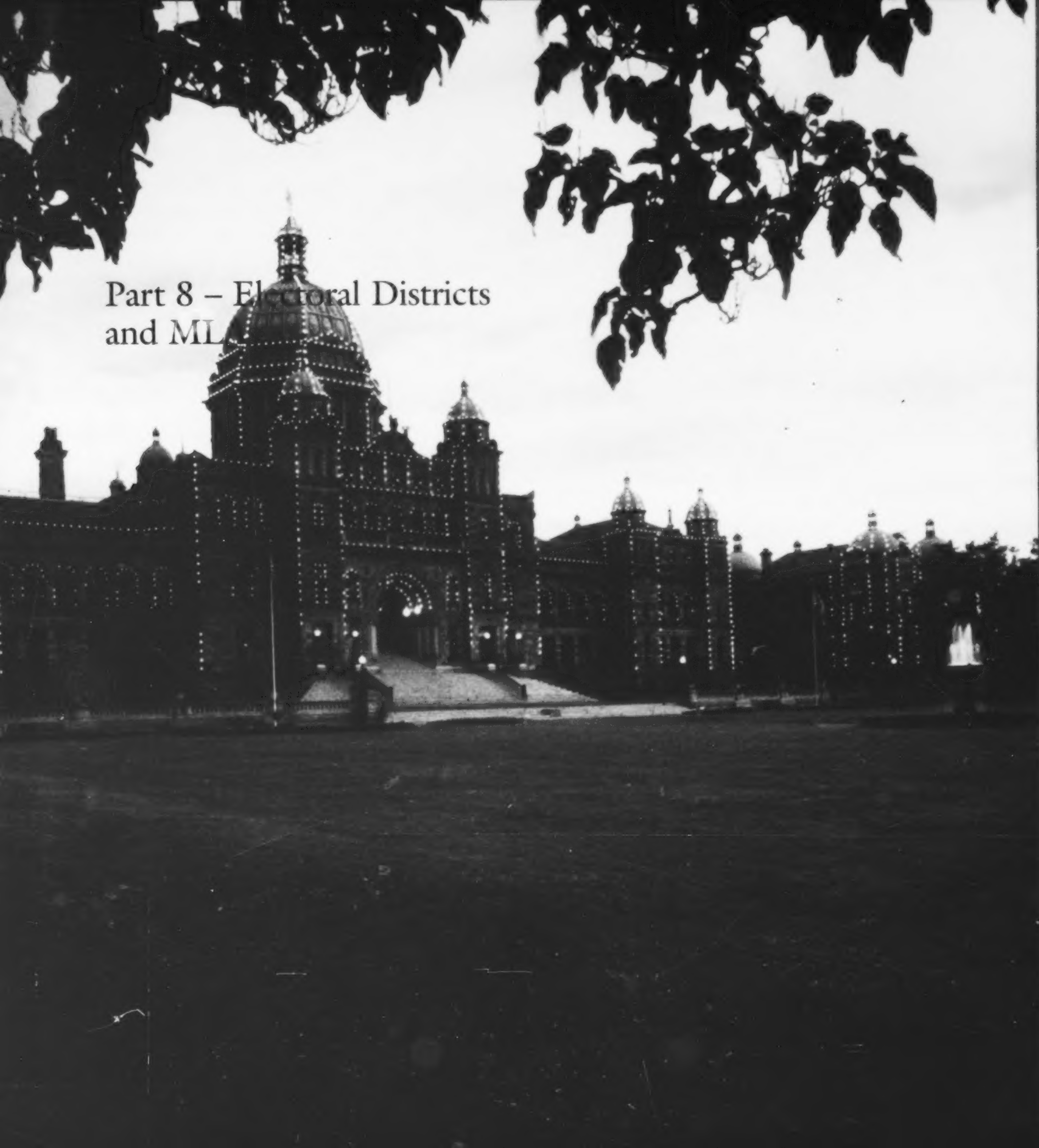
Current electoral districts
Our Regional groupings

- The North
    - North Coast
    - Skeena
    - Bulkley Valley–Stikine
    - Prince George–Omineca
    - Prince George North
    - Prince George–Mount Robson
    - Peace River South
    - Peace River North
- Cariboo-Thompson
    - Cariboo North
    - Cariboo South
    - Yale-Lillooet
    - Kamloops
    - Kamloops–North Thompson
- Okanagan
    - Shuswap
    - Okanagan-Vernon
    - Kelowna–Lake Country
    - Kelowna-Mission
    - Okanagan-Westside
    - Penticton–Okanagan Valley
- Columbia-Kootenay
    - Columbia River–Revelstoke
    - East Kootenay
    - Nelson-Creston
    - West Kootenay–Boundary
- Fraser Valley
    - Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows
    - Maple Ridge–Mission
    - Langley
    - Fort Langley–Aldergrove
    - Abbotsford–Mount Lehman
    - Abbotsford-Clayburn
    - Chilliwack-Sumas
    - Chilliwack-Kent
- Tri-Cities
    - Port Moody–Westwood
    - Burquitlam
    - Coquitlam-Maillardville
    - Port Coquitlam–Burke Mountain
- Surrey
    - Surrey-Whalley
    - Surrey-Green Timbers
    - Surrey-Tynehead
    - Surrey-Newton
    - Surrey–Panorama Ridge
    - Surrey-Cloverdale
    - Surrey–White Rock
- Richmond and Delta
    - Richmond Centre
    - Richmond-Steveston
    - Richmond East
    - Delta South
    - Delta North
- Burnaby and New Westminster
    - Burnaby North
    - Burnaby-Willingdon
    - Burnaby-Edmonds
    - New Westminster
- Vancouver
    - Vancouver-Hastings
    - Vancouver-Kingsway
    - Vancouver-Fraserview
    - Vancouver–Mount Pleasant
    - Vancouver-Kensington
    - Vancouver-Burrard
    - Vancouver-Fairview
    - Vancouver-Langara
    - Vancouver–Point Grey
    - Vancouver-Quilchena
- North Shore
    - North Vancouver–Seymour
    - North Vancouver–Lonsdale
    - West Vancouver–Capilano
    - West Vancouver–Garibaldi
- Vancouver Island and South Coast
    - Powell River–Sunshine Coast
    - North Island
    - Comox Valley
    - Alberni-Qualicum
    - Nanaimo-Parksville
    - Nanaimo
    - Cowichan-Ladysmith
    - Malahat–Juan de Fuca
    - Saanich North and the Islands
    - Saanich South
    - Oak Bay–Gordon Head
    - Victoria–Beacon Hill
    - Victoria-Hillside
    - Esquimalt-Metchosin

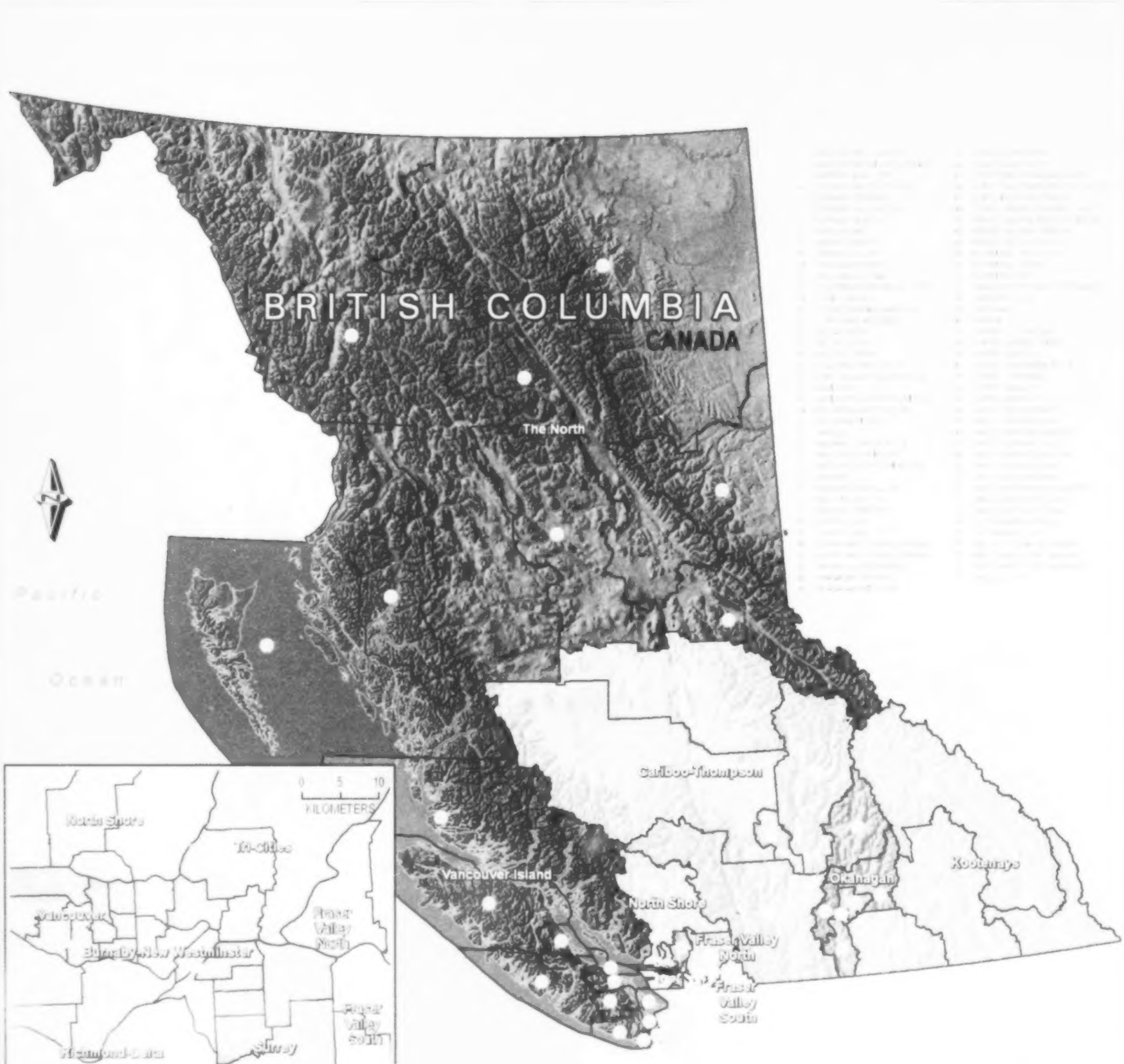
Current electoral districts – Our Regional groupings


YUKON TERRITORY
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
BRITISH COLUMBIA
The North
Pacific Ocean
ALBERTA
Cariboo-Thompson
Kootenays
Okanagan
Vancouver Island
North Shore
Fraser Valley North
See inset
Fraser Valley South
WASHINGTON
IDAHO
MONTANA
0 50 100
KILOMETERS
North Shore
Tri-Cities
Vancouver
Burnaby-New Westminster
Fraser Valley North
Fraser Valley South
Richmond-Delta
Surrey
Inset
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
1 ABBOTSFORD-CLAYBURN
2 ABBOTSFORD-MOUNT LEHMAN
3 ALBERNI-QUALICUM
4 BULKLEY VALLEY-STIKINE
5 BURNABY-EDMONDS
6 BURNABY-WILLINGDON
7 BURNABY NORTH
8 BURQUITLAM
9 CARIBOO NORTH
10 CARIBOO SOUTH
11 CHILLIWACK-KENT
12 CHILLIWACK-SUMAS
13 COLUMBIA RIVER-REVELSTOKE
14 COMOX VALLEY
15 COQUITLAM-MAILLARDVILLE
16 COWICHAN-LADYSMITH
17 DELTA NORTH
18 DELTA SOUTH
19 EAST KOOTENAY
20 ESQUIMALT-METCHOSIN
21 FORT LANGLEY-ALDERGROVE
22 KAMLOOPS
23 KAMLOOPS-NORTH THOMPSON
24 KELOWNA-LAKE COUNTRY
25 KELOWNA-MISSION
26 LANGLEY
27 MALAHAT-JUAN DE FUCA
28 MAPLE RIDGE-MISSION
29 MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS
30 NANAIMO
31 NANAIMO-PARKSVILLE
32 NELSON-CRESTON
33 NEW WESTMINSTER
34 NORTH COAST
35 NORTH ISLAND
36 NORTH VANCOUVER-LONSDALE
37 NORTH VANCOUVER-SEYMOUR
38 OAK BAY-GORDON HEAD
39 OKANAGAN-VERNON
40 OKANAGAN-WESTSIDE
41 PEACE RIVER NORTH
42 PEACE RIVER SOUTH
43 PENTICTON-OKANAGAN VALLEY
44 PORT COQUITLAM-BURKE MOUNTAIN
45 PORT MOODY-WESTWOOD
46 POWELL RIVER-SUNSHINE COAST
47 PRINCE GEORGE-MOUNT ROBSON
48 PRINCE GEORGE-OMINECA
49 PRINCE GEORGE NORTH
50 RICHMOND-STEVESTON
51 RICHMOND CENTRE
52 RICHMOND EAST
53 SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS
54 SAANICH SOUTH
55 SHUSWAP
56 SKEENA
57 SURREY-CLOVERDALE
58 SURREY-GREEN TIMBERS
59 SURREY-NEWTON
60 SURREY-PANORAMA RIDGE
61 SURREY-TYNEHEAD
62 SURREY-WHALLEY
63 SURREY-WHITE ROCK
64 VANCOUVER-BURRARD
65 VANCOUVER-FAIRVIEW
66 VANCOUVER-FRASERVIEW
67 VANCOUVER-HASTINGS
68 VANCOUVER-KENSINGTON
69 VANCOUVER-KINGSWAY
70 VANCOUVER-LANGARA
71 VANCOUVER-MOUNT PLEASANT
72 VANCOUVER-POINT GREY
73 VANCOUVER-QUILCHENA
74 VICTORIA-BEACON HILL
75 VICTORIA-HILLSIDE
76 WEST KOOTENAY-BOUNDARY
77 WEST VANCOUVER-CAPILANO
78 WEST VANCOUVER-GARIBALDI
79 YALE-LILLOOET

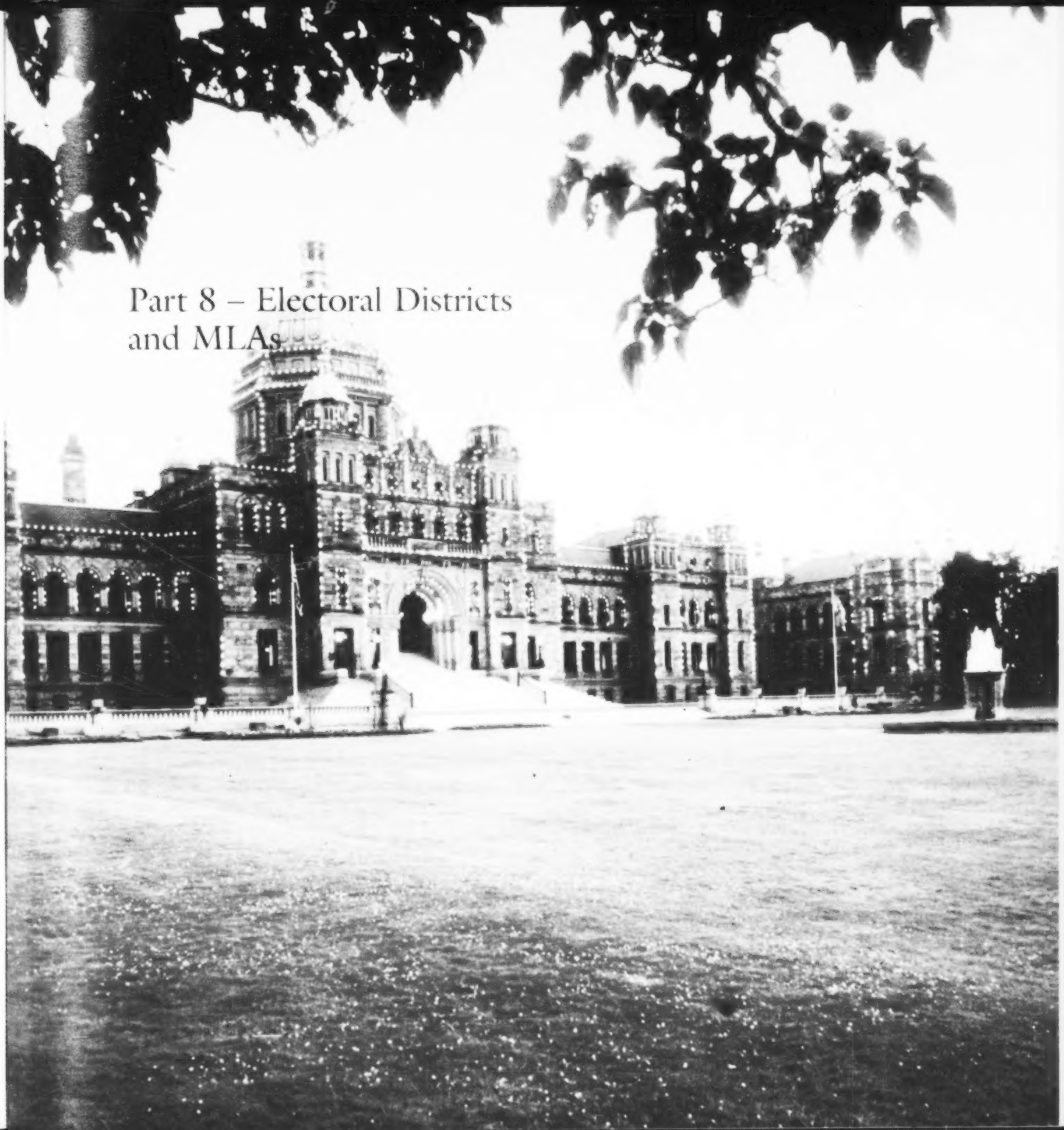
Part 8 – Electoral Districts and MLAs

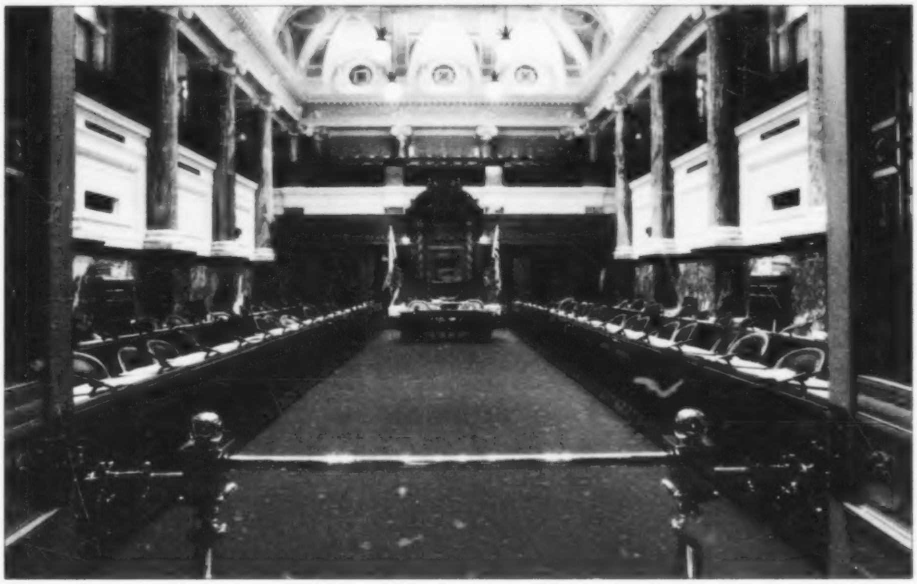


Current electoral districts – Our Regional groupings


BRITISH COLUMBIA
CANADA
The North
Pacific
Ocean
Cariboo-Thompson
Vancouver Island
Okanagan
Kootenays
North Shore
Fraser Valley North
Fraser Valley South
North Shore
Tri-Cities
Vancouver
Fraser Valley North
Burnaby-New Westminster
Fraser Valley South
Richmond-Delta
Surrey
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
Inset

Part 8 – Electoral Districts and MLAs





Part 8 – Electoral Districts and MLAs

A. Legislation

British Columbia currently has 79 MLAs in 79 single-member electoral districts. The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* (from which we derive our instructions respecting single member plurality (SMP) electoral districts) speaks of the number of electoral districts. Since B.C.'s SMP electoral districts are all single-member districts, the number of SMP districts and the number of MLAs is the same.

However, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005* (from which we derive our instructions respecting BC-STV electoral districts) must of necessity speak of the number of MLAs, since the total number of BC-STV electoral districts will depend on our decisions respecting the number of MLAs for each district.

This part of the report has application both to SMP and BC-STV boundary setting. For clarity, we will refer in this part to the number of electoral districts rather than the number of MLAs.

The Legislative Assembly has authorized us to increase the number of electoral districts. Section 3(2) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* states:

> If the commission in carrying out its functions under subsection (1) considers that the number of electoral districts in British Columbia should be increased, it may make proposals to the Legislative Assembly to increase the number of electoral districts up to a maximum of 85.

The legislation makes it clear that we are not obligated to propose an increase, that we may increase but not decrease the number of electoral districts, that we may propose an increase of between one and six electoral districts, and that we only propose – the final decision about increasing the number of electoral districts rests with the Legislative Assembly.

In determining whether to propose an increase in the number of electoral districts, section 9(2) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* requires that we take into account several factors:

- geographic considerations, including the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia;
- demographic considerations, including the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia; and,
- the availability of means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

B. History

The number of constituents that an MLA represents has a direct bearing on effective representation. As B.C.'s population has grown, so has the number of its MLAs (see Table 4):

TABLE 4: NUMBER OF CONSTITUENTS PER MLA IN B.C., SINCE 1871

Year	**Provincial population***	**Number of MLAs**	**Constituents per MLA**
1871	36,000	25	1,440
1876	43,000	25	1,720
1881	49,000	25	1,960
1886	74,000	27	2,741
1891	98,000	33	2,970
1896	138,000	33	4,182
1901	179,000	38	4,711
1906	279,000	42	6,643
1911	393,000	42	9,357
1916	456,000	47	9,702
1921	525,000	47	11,170
1926	606,000	48	12,625
1931	694,300	48	14,465
1936	775,000	48	16,146
1941	871,800	48	18,163
1946	1,003,000	48	20,896
1951	1,165,200	48	24,275
1956	1,398,500	52	26,894
1961	1,629,100	52	31,329
1966	1,873,700	55	34,067
1971	2,184,600	55	39,720
1976	2,466,608	55	44,847
1981	2,744,467	57	48,149
1986	2,883,367	69	41,788
1991	3,282,061	75	43,761
1996	3,724,500	75	49,660
2001	3,907,738	79	49,465
2006	4,113,487	79	52,069

*Provincial population data based on census data.

This shows that the increase in MLAs has not kept pace with B.C.'s growing population. Indeed, an MLA today represents almost twice as many constituents as an MLA did in 1956.

C. What People Told Us

During our public consultation, we heard varying views about whether we should propose an increase in the number of MLAs. Of the 1,523 people surveyed by BC Stats on our behalf, 49 percent thought that B.C. has enough MLAs, while 34 percent thought there should be more. The remaining 17 percent were undecided or did not respond.[48]

Several divergent views were expressed:

- B.C. already has enough elected representatives, and the cost of additional MLAs[49] would be better spent on health, education or other social services.
- A modest increase in the number of MLAs is reasonable, to represent areas of rapid population growth, such as the Lower Mainland and the Okanagan.
- The number of MLAs in sparsely populated areas should not be reduced. Some people added that, if it were necessary to add seats in fast-growing urban areas for that to happen, so be it.
- A written submission we received opposed an increase in the number of MLAs and stated:

> There are a number of very special circumstances that affect the ability of MLAs from Northern British Columbia to effectively represent their constituents. Given these circumstances, we recommend that the Commission not reduce the number of elected representatives from Northern B.C. Our representatives have to work diligently to make our voice heard in Victoria and we do not want to see it eroded. By the same token, we recommend that the Commission not recommend increasing the number of electoral districts, which it is empowered to do. An increase in the number of electoral ridings from the current 79 would further reduce the ability of Northern B.C. residents to be effectively represented in the legislature.

D. How B.C. Compares to Other Provinces and Territories

We also examined how B.C. compares to other Canadian jurisdictions. We found that the number of constituents per MLA varies widely across the country, from a low of 1,637 to a high of 118,061. At 52,069 constituents per MLA, B.C. has the third-highest ratio, as the following table shows (see Table 5).

---

[48] The BC Stats survey was conducted between June and August 2006. The maximum margin of error was 2.5 percent, 19 times out of 20.

[49] Between $324,000 and $512,000 per MLA per year, according to information provided by the Legislative Assembly.

TABLE 5: NUMBER OF CONSTITUENTS PER MLA ACROSS CANADA

Province*	Population	Number of MLAs**	Constituents per MLA
Ontario	12,160,282	103	118,061
Quebec	7,546,131	125	60,369
British Columbia	**4,113,487**	**79**	**52,069**
Alberta	3,290,350	83	39,643
Manitoba	1,148,401	57	20,147
Nova Scotia	937,900	52	18,037
Saskatchewan	968,157	58	16,692
New Brunswick	729,997	55	13,273
Newfoundland & Labrador	505,469	48	10,531
Prince Edward Island	135,851	27	5,032
Yukon Territory	30,372	18	1,687
Northwest Territories	41,464	19	2,182
Nunavut	29,474	18	1,637

* Provincial population data based on 2006 Census, excluding census undercount.

** Number of MLAs does not reflect recent redistributions that have not yet taken effect.

E. Discussion

In deciding whether to propose an increase in the number of MLAs, we have had to weigh several competing considerations. On the one hand, we are mindful of the many people from all parts of the province who advanced arguments against any increase in the number of MLAs:

- the money saved could be better spent on health, education or other social programs; and,
- adding seats in high-growth urban areas would result in northern and rural areas having a weaker voice in the Legislative Assembly, as a relatively smaller percentage of MLAs would be from these areas.

Those pleas brought us back to our constitutional and legislative mandate. When deciding whether to propose additional MLAs, do our terms of reference entitle us to limit the number of additional electoral districts we would otherwise propose, in order to free up public funds for other public services? And, should we maintain a level of representation of sparsely populated areas of the province in order to prevent the dilution of B.C.'s rural voice?

We are sensitive to the views expressed during our public consultation sessions, and we have learned how important these issues are. Two issues should be noted:

- First, rural areas of B.C. not close to metropolitan areas[50] are undergoing serious challenges from the relentless urbanization of the province.[51]
- Second, it was stressed many times during our public consultation sessions that the North's natural resources are the engine that drives the provincial economy.

Real as these issues are, we have concluded that we should not treat these rural challenges and contributions as overriding considerations when deciding about deviating from parity of population among electoral districts. Rather, our constitutional mandate (as discussed in Part 4 – The Legal Framework) is to deviate from parity only when necessary in order to ensure effective representation. In our judgment, that analysis must take place at the individual electoral district level. For each electoral district we propose, we must be satisfied that its population is at or near the provincial electoral quotient, or its positive or negative deviation is justified by consideration of constituents' access to their MLA and the MLA's ability to represent their interests.

---

[50] Statistics Canada describes two types of "rural areas": those close to urban centres, and those which are more remote. Statistics Canada: *Portrait of the Canadian Population* Catalogue no.97-550-XIE.

[51] For a general discussion of this topic, see *Understanding Freefall: The Challenge of the Rural Poor, Interim Report of the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry*, December 2006.

As noted earlier in this Part, the legislation under which we operate specifies the factors we must take into account when proposing an increase in the number of electoral districts.

To wander from these considerations would be the misapplication of our discretion. Our starting point is representation by population. Deviations are permitted only to make that representation effective, not to change the balance of electoral power to favour one area of the province over another. To quote the Alberta Court of Appeal: "No argument for effective representation of one group legitimizes under-representation of another group."[53]

Although the BC Stats survey referred to earlier revealed that a majority of respondents are reluctant to increase the number of electoral districts, we need to bear in mind that B.C.'s population is growing, up 10.4 percent from the 1996 census used by the last electoral boundaries commission. We have seen the number of constituents served by an MLA nearly double over the past 50 years and that trend would continue even if we were to add the maximum of six electoral districts permitted by the legislation.

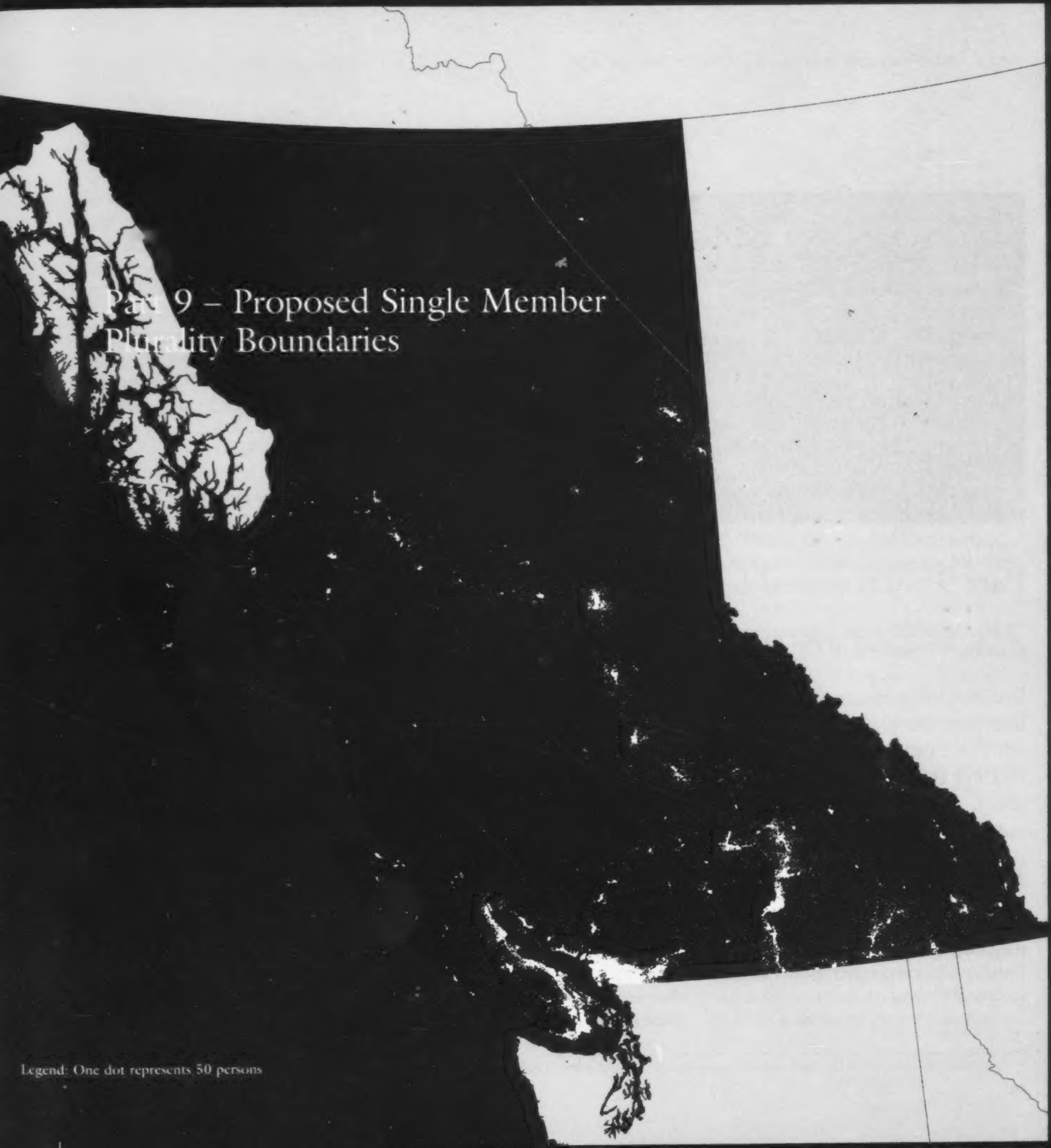
With respect to cost, when the Legislative Assembly enacted legislation authorizing us to recommend up to six additional electoral districts, legislators must have been aware of the cost associated with adding MLAs. We are satisfied that they granted this authority in full recognition of the competing claims for public funds, and we do not believe that we should second-guess that decision.

In the pages ahead we will set out in detail our analysis that led to our decision-making about the number of electoral districts we will propose.

---

[53] ***Reference re Electoral Boundaries Commission Act (Alta.) ("1991 Alberta Reference")*** (1991), 86 D.L.R. (4th) 447 (Alta. C.A.), on p. 456.

Part 9 – Proposed Single Member Plurality Boundaries



Legend: One dot represents 50 persons

Part 9 – Proposed Single Member Plurality Boundaries

A. A Description of the SMP Electoral System

British Columbia currently uses the single member plurality (SMP) electoral system, sometimes called the first-past-the-post electoral system. In its present configuration, B.C. is divided into 79 electoral districts, with one candidate to be elected in each district. In an election, the candidate in an electoral district who receives the most votes wins, and the political party that elects the most candidates forms the government. A candidate does not need to receive a majority of votes; it is enough if a candidate receives more votes than any other candidate – a plurality.

The SMP electoral system is a product of the British electoral tradition, and is currently in use across Canada, in the USA, in the United Kingdom, in India and in many other former British colonies.[54]

In this part, we will set out our proposals for the single member plurality electoral districts in British Columbia, and the reasons for them. Before doing so, we will provide a brief description of the process we followed in developing these proposals.

B. The Process

1. The steps we went through in developing our proposed SMP electoral districts

The current 79 electoral districts, when proposed by our predecessor electoral

---

[54] For a detailed discussion of the SMP and other electoral systems, see *Electoral Systems, a Comparative Introduction*, by David M. Farrell, Palgrave, New York, NY, 2001.

boundaries commission, included six "very special circumstances" electoral districts with deviations greater than minus 25 percent – five in the North and one in the Kootenays.

We began our analysis by grouping the current 79 electoral districts into our defined regions. See Part 7 of this report for a discussion of the 12 regions we defined.

Then, we went through the entire province on a region-by-region basis, preparing tables showing the deviations from parity for the current 79 electoral districts at the time they were established in 1999 (based on the 1996 census), and showing the deviations from parity for those 79 electoral districts now (based on 2006 census estimates prepared by BC Stats).

That analysis revealed that the number of electoral districts with deviations greater than plus or minus 25 percent had increased from six out of 79 in 1999 to 17 out of 79 now, applying 2006 census data. The number of electoral districts with a population more than 25 percent below the provincial electoral quotient (total provincial population divided by the number of electoral districts) had increased from six to 13 and, in addition, four electoral districts had populations more than 25 percent above the provincial electoral quotient.

Having interpreted the expression "very special" circumstances to mean "exceptional" or "extraordinary," we concluded that we could not justify proposing 17 electoral districts with deviations exceeding the plus or minus 25 percent statutory limit. Consequently, we realized that we would have to embark on a comprehensive review of the current boundaries.

Proceeding incrementally, we then "rebalanced" the population among the electoral districts within each of our regions, using current population data. By that we mean that we adjusted the current electoral boundaries within a given region, with the goal of having every electoral district within that region have the same population. It soon became apparent that "perfect" rebalancing would come at too high a price. It could only be achieved through major disruptions to important community interests including, for example, dividing small cities and towns between two or more electoral districts. Consequently, our rebalancing of electoral districts within any given region resulted in some population differences among districts.

Using the North as an example, the current eight electoral districts have deviations ranging from minus 29 percent to minus 51 percent, based on the 2006 census. Rebalancing in the North in a way that made sense on the ground resulted in deviations ranging from minus 30 percent to minus 38 percent.

Even this modified rebalancing exercise left us with 10 of 79 electoral districts outside the plus or minus 25 percent limit – all eight electoral districts in the North exceeded minus 25 percent, and two electoral districts in the Fraser Valley exceeded plus 25 percent. In addition, rebalancing still resulted in numerous important community interests being violated, some cities being divided among three electoral districts (e.g. Prince George and Kamloops), and several regions having double-digit average deviations.

It became clear that, while rebalancing might work in some regions, it would not be an adequate response in most regions of the province, particularly those regions with the slowest population growth and those regions with the fastest population growth. Consequently, we embarked on a region-by-region analysis.

As we examined the situation facing us in each region, we were guided by our constitutional and legal mandate – every proposed electoral district should be as close as possible to the provincial electoral quotient, except to the extent necessary to deviate from that quotient in order to ensure effective representation.

As we worked our way through each region, we examined a wide variety of factors, including the current number of electoral districts, current and projected population, the distribution of population within each electoral district and within the region as a whole, the history of redistricting in that region, community interests, and transportation and communication challenges.

As you will read in the pages ahead, each region presented a unique set of challenges. In the North, the Cariboo and the Kootenays, we were faced with vast geographical areas, yet with a population that is not keeping pace with the provincial average. The converse exists in the Okanagan, the Lower Mainland and southeastern Vancouver Island, with its many densely populated and rapidly growing urban centres.

With each step, we sought ways to meet our constitutional and legal duty in the least disruptive way possible, such as by reconfiguring current electoral districts. Occasionally, we made adjustments to the outer boundaries of a particular region, if we felt that the current boundaries unnecessarily breached important community interests.

At one point, we grouped the Cariboo-Thompson, Okanagan and Columbia-Kootenay regions into one "mega-region" in the hope (ultimately unsuccessful) that it would give us greater flexibility to develop boundaries that would enable us to preserve all 15 electoral districts in those regions.

It was an iterative process. We began with 79 electoral districts, and we embraced without qualification our statutory mandate to increase that number up to 85, if we concluded that we should do so. As you will read in the pages ahead, we began in the North, and then moved to the Cariboo-Thompson, Okanagan, Columbia-Kootenay, Fraser Valley, Lower Mainland and, finally, Vancouver Island.

Each step along the way, our primary focus was on individual electoral districts, albeit within a regional context. At each stage, we made decisions about whether the number of electoral districts should be preserved (and, if so, with what boundary changes), or whether there should be an increase or decrease in the number of electoral districts. As we made decisions about reducing the number of electoral districts in some regions, and increasing the number in others, the provincial electoral quotient (total provincial population divided by the number of electoral districts) kept changing, which required an ongoing recalculation of deviations from parity.

Through this iterative process, we were able to ascertain the number of electoral districts that we would be proposing (81). This gave us the ability to establish the provincial electoral quotient of 50,784 (based on the 2006 census provincial population of 4,113,487) and to calculate each proposed electoral district's deviation from parity.

In the pages ahead, we begin our description of each regional analysis with a listing of the current 79 electoral districts, and their current deviations. Applying the 2006 census provincial population of 4,113,487, and 79 electoral districts, the provincial electoral quotient is 52,069, which is the figure we used in calculating the current 79 electoral districts' deviations from parity. We also used this quotient during the rebalancing exercise described above, because we were still dealing with the current 79 electoral districts.

However, when we realized that rebalancing the population within each region's electoral districts would not be an adequate response to recent population changes across the province, we had to embark on a qualitatively different type of analysis – work our way through the province region-by-region, and make decisions as we went about retaining the same number of electoral districts in a region, or proposing an increase or decrease (and what effect such changes would have on individual districts' deviations).

In describing our analysis in the pages ahead, we will rely on the provincial electoral quotient derived from 79 electoral districts during our initial discussion of current deviations applicable to the current 79 electoral districts, as well as during our description of the rebalancing exercise (since that exercise assumed 79 electoral districts).

However, when we progress to our description of the analysis of each region's electoral districts, we will rely on 81 districts for ascertaining the provincial electoral quotient and for calculating deviations from it.

You will also see that the number of electoral districts within some of our 12 regions, and the outer boundaries of those regions, have changed as a result of our analysis.

2. Using updated population projections

During the course of our boundary setting process, we received some data from BC Stats (see Appendices O to R) that contained population projections for the proposed electoral districts based on the 2006 census. We then used this data to review the conclusions we had reached about the number and configuration of our proposed electoral districts, always mindful of the cautions we had received from many submitters about the reliability of projections.

The BC Stats projections indicate that some of the proposed electoral districts could be outside the statutory limits by the year 2013, the time of the last election that the proposed electoral districts would apply to if they are accepted by the Legislative Assembly.

Where the BC Stats projections were consistent with the information we had relied upon to reach our conclusions, we felt it appropriate to draw boundaries to avoid proposing an electoral district that would exceed the statutory limits in 2013.

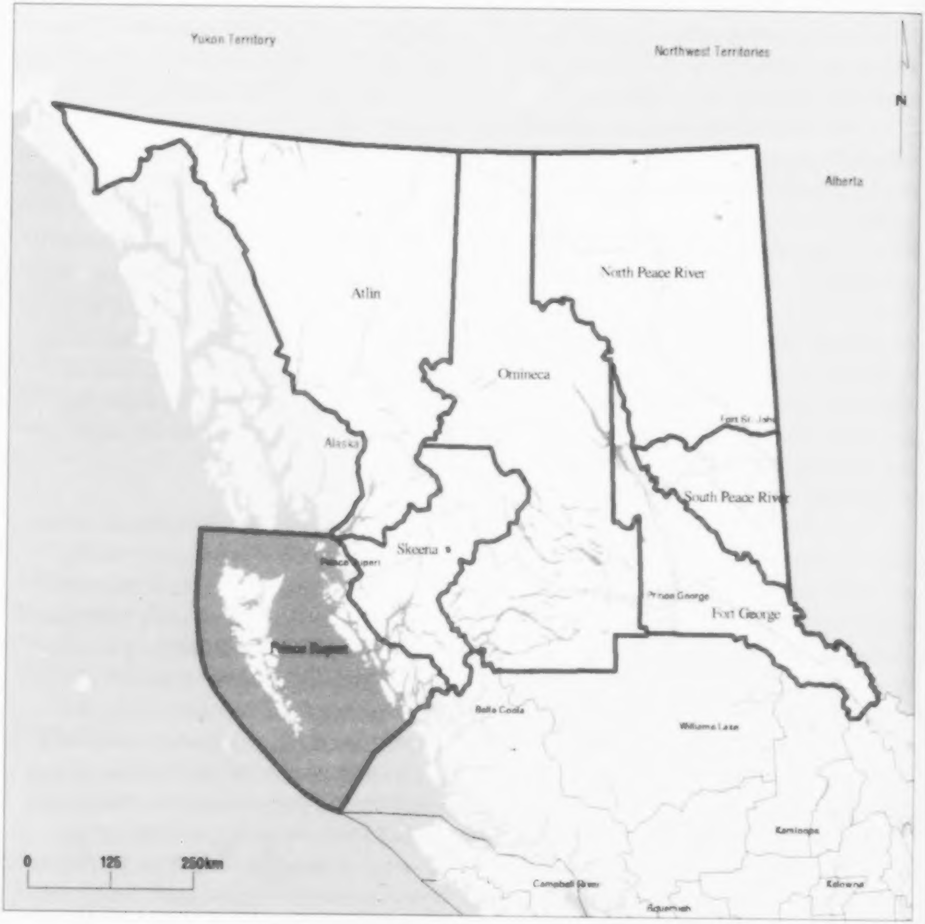
On the other hand, we were not prepared to rely on the BC Stats projections which show a continuing decline in population for the sparsely populated electoral districts, because of the conflicting submissions we received about these areas of the province. For example, despite the apparent trend of a continued decline in population as indicated by the projections, we heard and read about new projects that are underway or being planned, and a recent upswing in real estate activity with an increase in land values – factors which, if sustained, may have a positive impact on population growth. Therefore, we did not consider it prudent to adjust our proposed electoral districts in these areas without dependable data such as that provided by the 2006 census.

C. The North

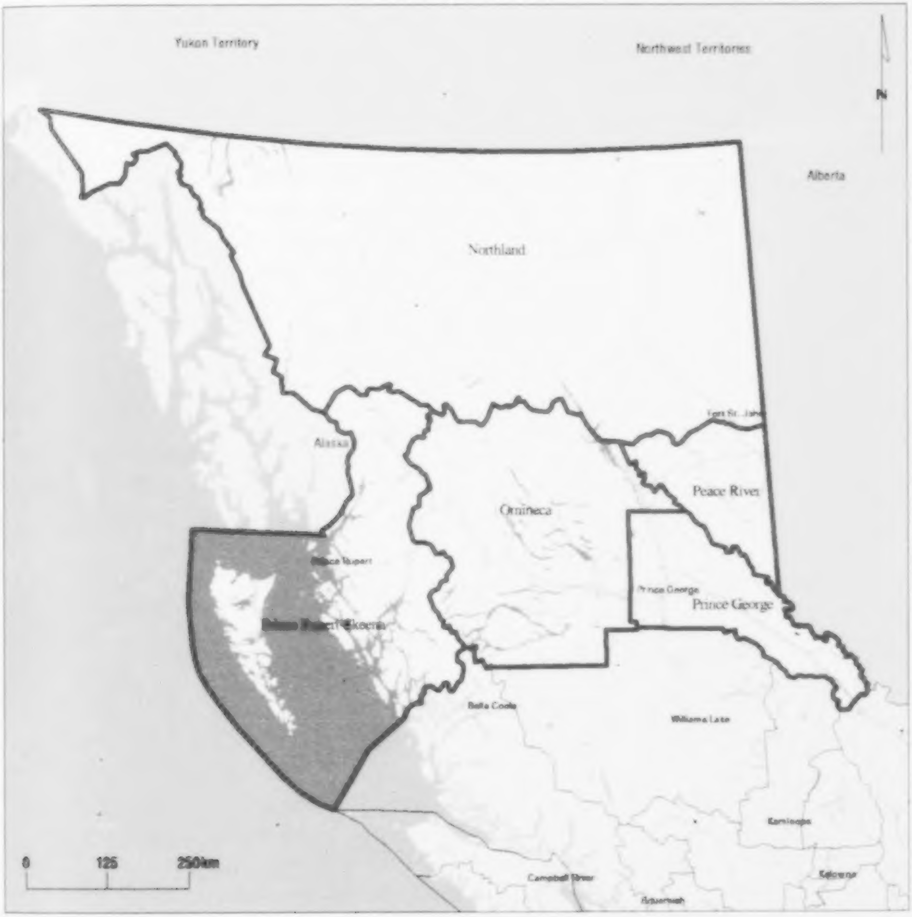
1. The evolution of the North's electoral districts

Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, there were seven electoral districts in the North (see The North, Map 1):

- West
  - Prince Rupert, Skeena and Atlin
- Central
  - Omineca and Fort George
- Peace
  - North Peace River and South Peace River.


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
N
Alberta
Atlin
North Peace River
Omineca
Fort St. John
Alaska
South Peace River
Skeena
Prince Rupert
Prince Rupert
Prince George
Fort George
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
0
125
250km
Campbell River
Squamish
Kelowna

The North, Map 1


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
N
Alberta
Northland
Fort St. John
Alaska
Peace River
Omineca
Prince Rupert
Prince Rupert-Skeena
Prince George
Prince George
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Campbell River
Kelowna
0
125
250km

The North, Map 2

a. The Angus Commission (1966)

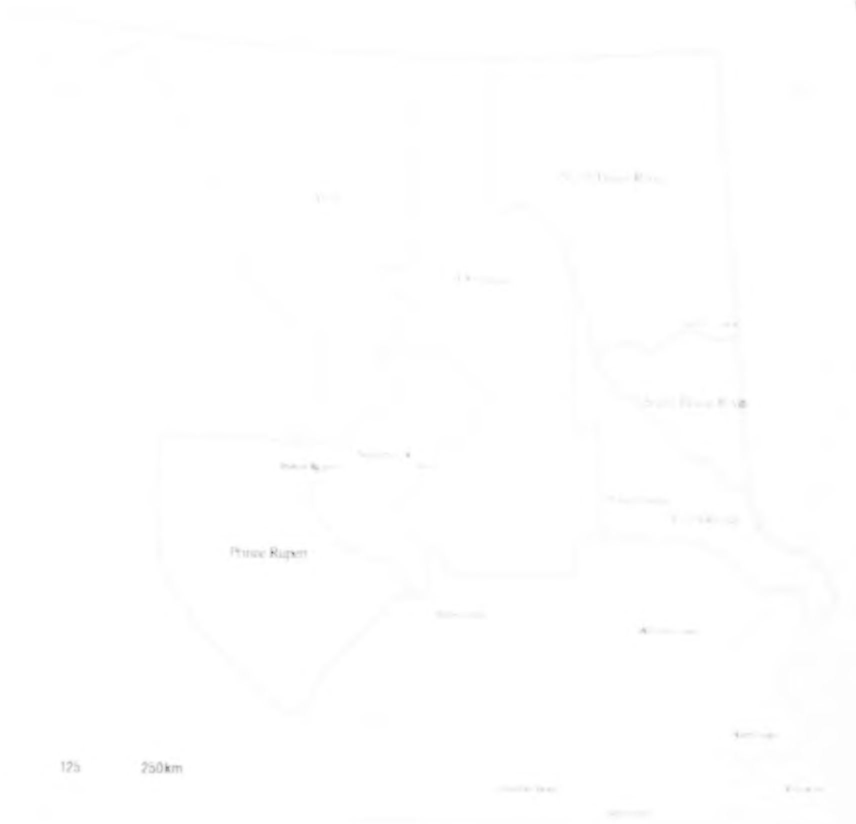
The Angus Commission determined that, based on population alone, the North was entitled only to three MLAs but decided that, due to the great diversity of interests and difficulty of communication, "the proper and effective representation of the people in this part of the province" required five members. It achieved this (see The North, Map 2) by:

- combining the electoral district of Skeena with Prince Rupert;
- eliminating the electoral district of Atlin; and,
- enlarging North Peace River into a new electoral district to be called Northland, which would extend westward to the Alaska Panhandle, as most of these communities were serviced by the Alaska Highway.

The Legislative Assembly accepted some of the Angus Commission's recommendations respecting other areas of the province, but did not accept any changes for the North. It preserved the electoral districts of Atlin and Skeena, thus retaining seven electoral districts in the North.

Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, there were seven electoral districts in the North (see The North, Map 1):

- West
  - Prince Rupert, Skeena and Atlin
- Central
  - Omineca and Fort George
- Peace
  - North Peace River and South Peace River.


North Peace River
South Peace River
Prince Rupert
0
125
250km

The North, Map 1

N
Prince Rupert–Skeena
0
125
250km

The North, Map 2

The Angus Commission determined that, based on population alone, the North was entitled only to three MLAs but decided that, due to the great diversity of interests and difficulty of communication, "the proper and effective representation of the people in this part of the province" required five members. It achieved this (see The North, Map 2) by:

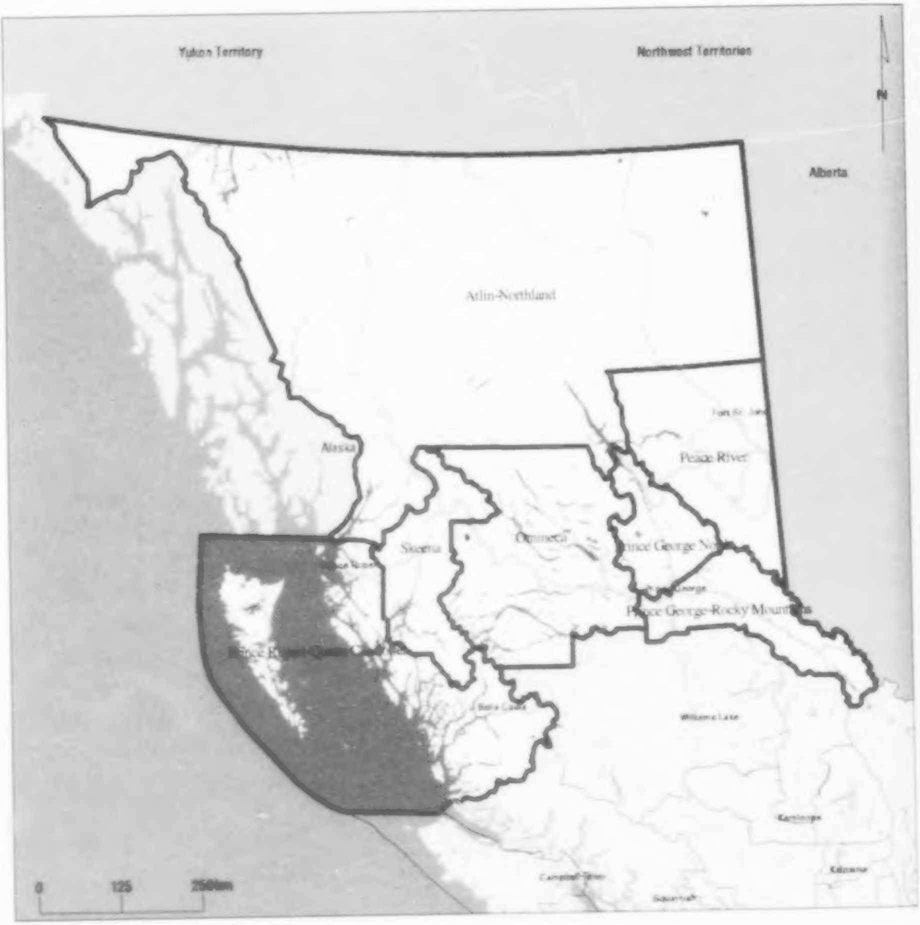
- combining the electoral district of Skeena with Prince Rupert;
- eliminating the electoral district of Atlin; and,
- enlarging North Peace River into a new electoral district to be called Northland, which would extend westward to the Alaska Panhandle, as most of these communities were serviced by the Alaska Highway.

The Legislative Assembly accepted some of the Angus Commission's recommendations respecting other areas of the province, but did not accept any changes for the North. It preserved the electoral districts of Atlin and Skeena, thus retaining seven electoral districts in the North.

b. The Norris Commission (1975)
The Norris Commission concluded, without giving detailed reasons, that all seven electoral districts in the North should be preserved (see The North, Map 3), but with several boundary and name changes:

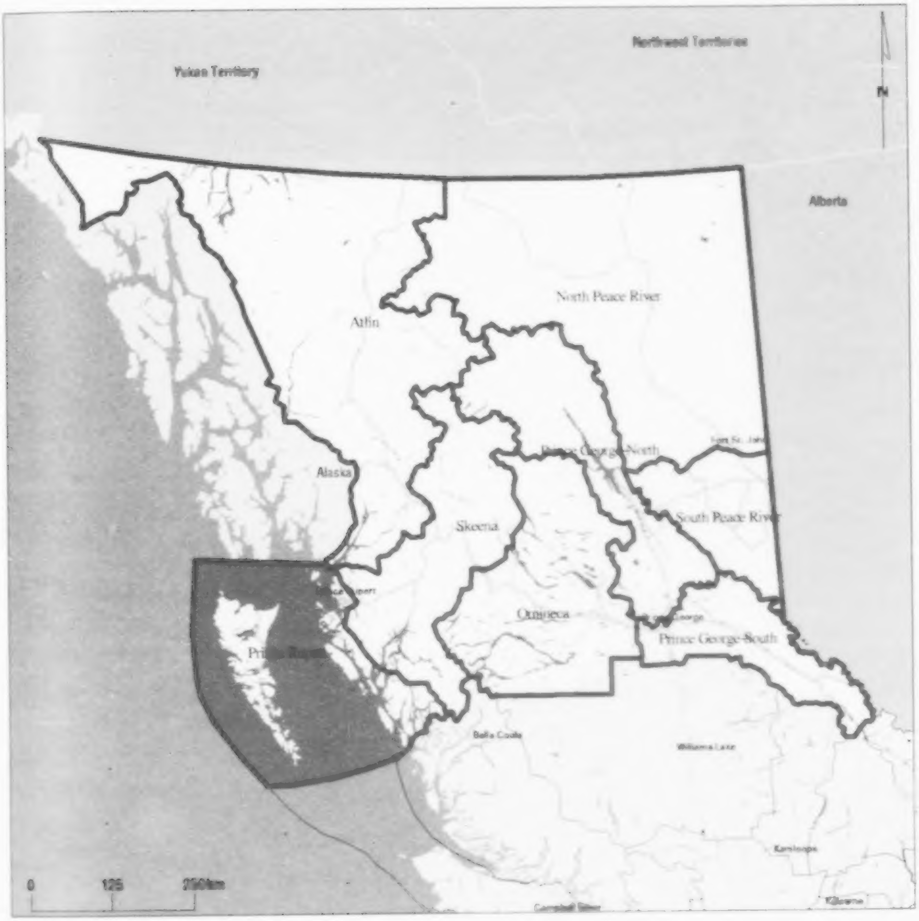
- North Peace River and Atlin should be merged into one new Atlin-Northland electoral district, similar to that proposed by the Angus Commission. The commission heard strong arguments from the civic representatives of Fort Nelson that their natural lines of communication and interest were along the Alaska Highway and to the West, rather than with Fort St. John.
- Because of a rapid increase in population in the electoral district of Fort George, it should be split into two electoral districts, to be named Prince George North and Prince George–Rocky Mountains.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt any of the Norris Commission's recommendations, thus retaining the same seven electoral districts.


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
N
Alberta
Atlin-Northland
Alaska
Fort St. John
Peace River
Skeena
Omineca
Prince George North
Prince Rupert
Prince George
Prince George-Rocky Mountains
Prince Rupert-Queen Charlotte
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Kelowna
Campbell River
Squamish
0
125
250km

The North, Map 3

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt heard strong submissions that the number of MLAs for the North should either be kept at seven or even increased, having regard to the importance of resource development. There were only eight MLAs (out of 55) north of Cache Creek, and he was told that


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
N
Alberta
North Peace River
Atlin
Alaska
Skeena
Prince George-North
Fort St. John
South Peace River
Prince Rupert
Omineca
Prince George
Prince George-South
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Campbell River
Kelowna
0
125
250km

The North, Map 4

this had resulted in decisions favouring the south to the detriment of the North. MLAs from the North were so strongly outnumbered that they had not been able to make their influence felt.

Although Judge Eckardt was empathetic to those views, he was concerned that increasing representation in the northern, sparsely populated electoral districts would result in an injustice to the urban and suburban residents in southern B.C. However, he did propose an increase of one electoral district by dividing Fort George into two because of an increase in population (see The North, Map 4), and that there should be boundary changes to several existing electoral districts.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Eckardt's recommendations, increasing the number of electoral districts in the North from seven to eight.

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
The only Warren Commission recommendation that affected the North was to convert North Peace River into a two-member electoral district. The Legislative Assembly did not adopt Mr. Warren's recommendations.

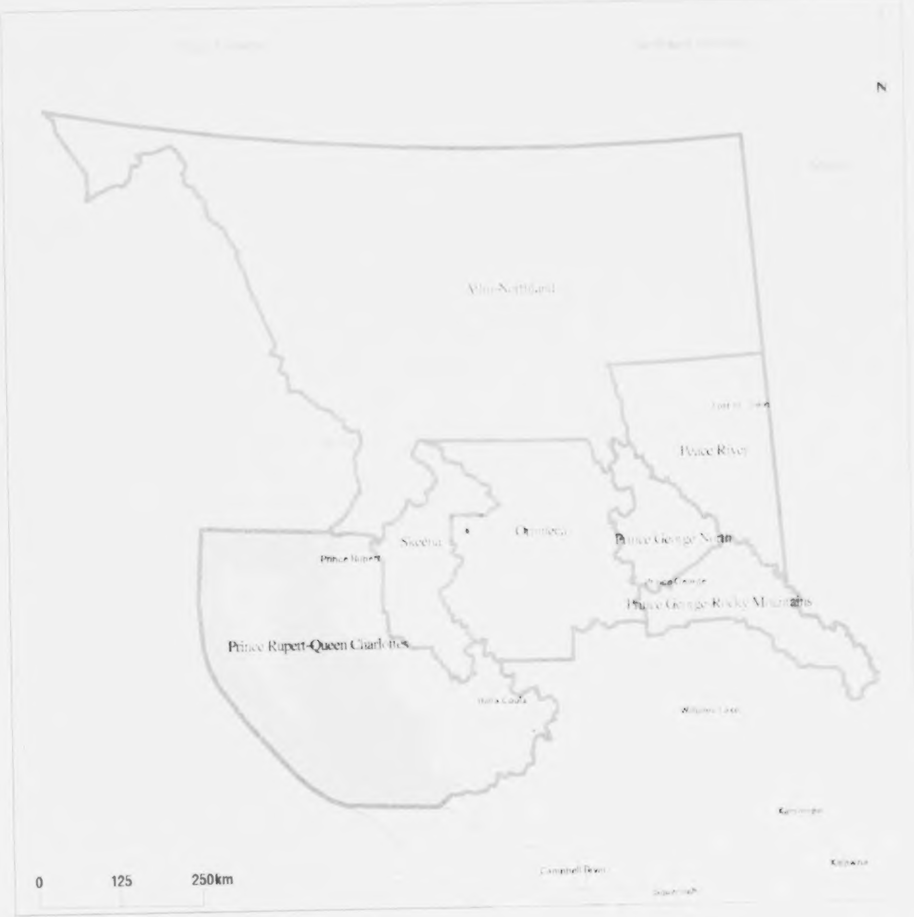
e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected the North.

[illegible] The Norris Commission (1975)

The Norris Commission concluded, without giving detailed reasons, that all seven electoral districts in the North should be preserved (see The North, Map 3), but with several boundary and name changes:

- North Peace River and Atlin should be merged into one new Atlin-Northland electoral district, similar to that proposed by the Angus Commission. The commission heard strong arguments from the civic representatives of Fort Nelson that their natural lines of communication and interest were along the Alaska Highway and to the West, rather than with Fort St. John.
- Because of a rapid increase in population in the electoral district of Fort George, it should be split into two electoral districts, to be named Prince George North and Prince George–Rocky Mountains.

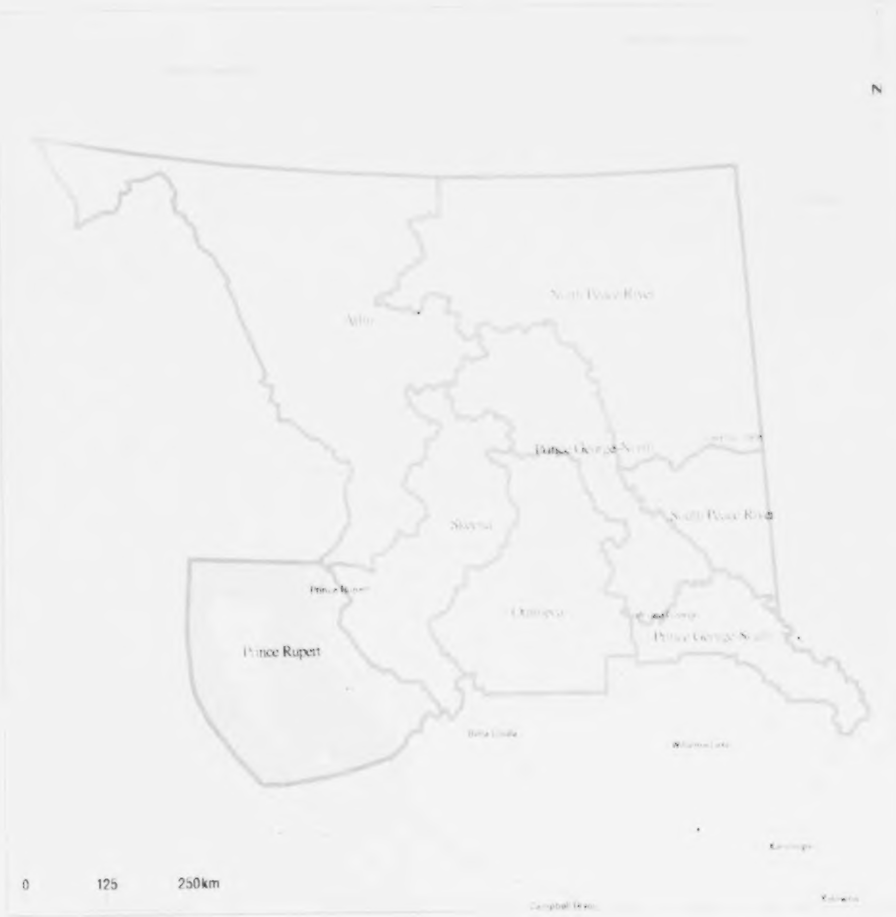
The Legislative Assembly did not adopt any of the Norris Commission's recommendations, thus retaining the same seven electoral districts.


N
Atlin-Northland
Fort St. John
Peace River
Skeena
Omineca
Prince George North
Prince Rupert
Prince George
Prince George-Rocky Mountains
Prince Rupert-Queen Charlottes
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Kelowna
Campbell River
Squamish
0
125
250km

The North, Map 3

The Eckardt Commission [illegible]

Judge Eckardt heard strong submissions that the number of MLAs for the North should either be kept at seven or even increased, having regard to the importance of resource development. There were only eight MLAs (out of 55) north of Cache Creek, and he was told that


N
Atlin
North Peace River
Prince George North
South Peace River
Skeena
Omineca
Prince Rupert
Prince Rupert
Prince George
Prince George South
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Campbell River
Kelowna
0
125
250km

The North, Map 4

this had resulted in decisions favouring the south to the detriment of the North. MLAs from the North were so strongly outnumbered that they had not been able to make their influence felt.

Although Judge Eckardt was empathetic to those views, he was concerned that increasing representation in the northern, sparsely populated electoral districts would result in an injustice to the urban and suburban residents in southern B.C. However, he did propose an increase of one electoral district by dividing Fort George into two because of an increase in population (see The North, Map 4), and that there should be boundary changes to several existing electoral districts.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Eckardt's recommendations, increasing the number of electoral districts in the North from seven to eight.

The only Warren Commission recommendation that affected the North was to convert North Peace River into a two-member electoral district. The Legislative Assembly did not adopt Mr. Warren's recommendations.

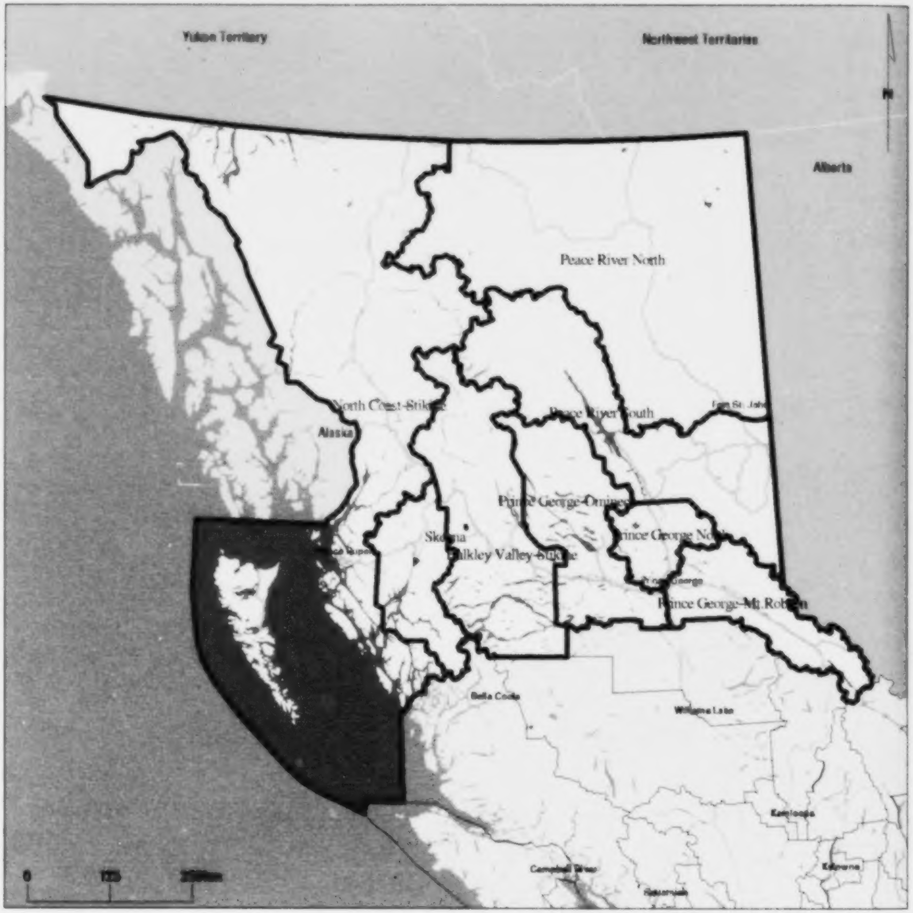
None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected the North.

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)

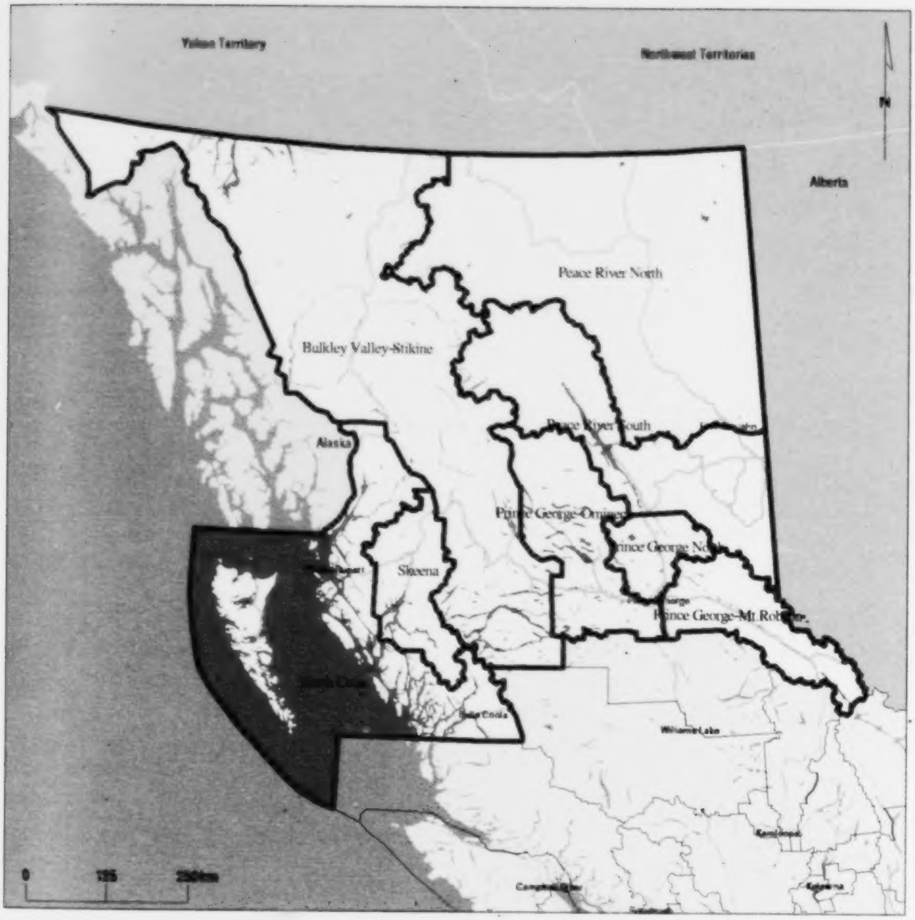
Judge Fisher was determined to create electoral districts whose deviations fell within his self-imposed limit of plus or minus 25 percent. The sparsely populated North proved to be his most difficult challenge: "I was deeply moved by testimony detailing the hardships experienced by residents of this frontier and concerned about the expressions of feelings of alienation from centres of economic and political power in the south."

In his interim report, Judge Fisher proposed that eight ridings be retained in the North (see The North, Map 5). Specifically, he recommended that:

- the electoral districts of Prince Rupert (minus 38 percent) and Atlin (minus 85 percent) be merged into a new district, to be named North Coast–Stikine, extending as far south as Hartley Bay, as requested by that community;
- Skeena (plus 12.8 percent) be reduced in size by drawing the new northeast boundary between Terrace and New Hazelton;
- a new district be created, to be named Bulkley Valley;
- Prince George be increased from two to three electoral districts: Prince George–Omineca, Prince George North and Prince George–Mount Robson; and,


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
Alberta
N
Peace River North
North Coast–Stikine
Alaska
Peace River South
Fort St. John
Prince George–Omineca
Skeena
Bulkley Valley–Stikine
Prince George North
Prince George
Prince George–Mt. Robson
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Campbell River
Kelowna
0
125
250 km

The North, Map 5


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
N
Alberta
Peace River North
Bulkley Valley-Stikine
Peace River South
Alaska
Prince George-Omineca
Prince George North
Skeena
Prince George-Mt. Robson
Williams Lake
0
125
250km

The North, Map 6

- the unacceptably low population of South Peace River should be augmented by including in that district the community of Mackenzie and surrounding area, in order to bring that district within his minus 25 percent goal.

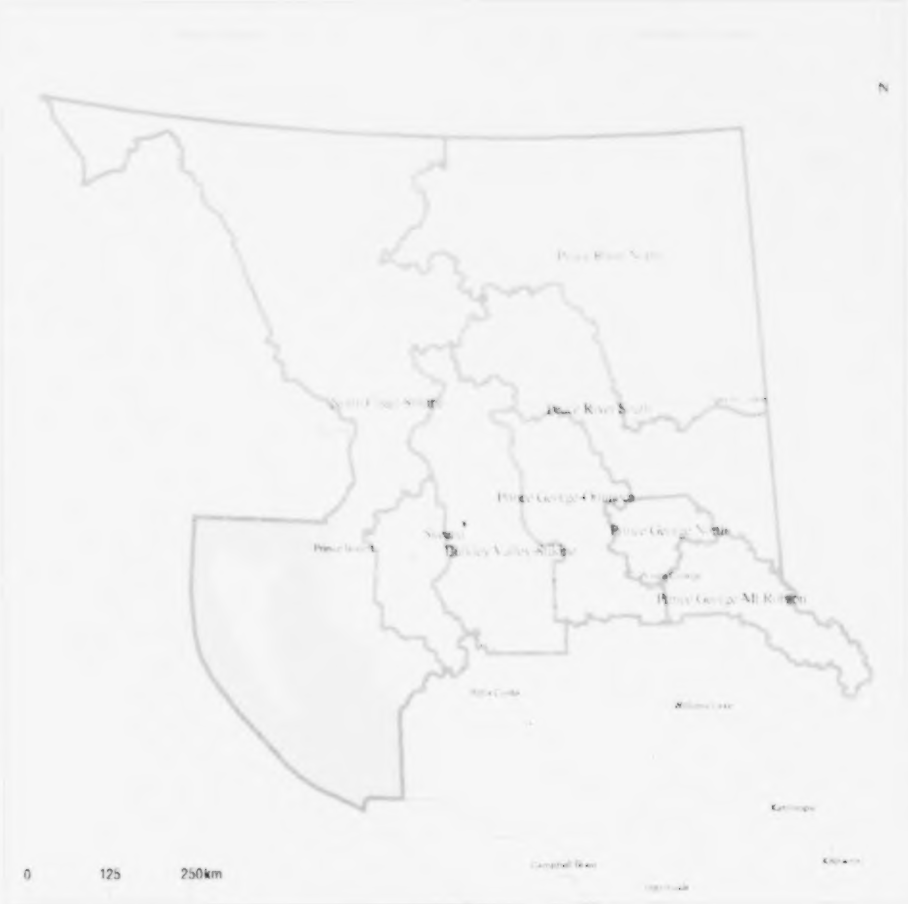
In his final report, Judge Fisher affirmed his earlier decision to propose eight electoral districts for the region (although population alone would have warranted only six districts), given the problems associated with size, sparse population and accessibility. However, he made several significant boundary changes to his proposed North Coast–Stikine and Bulkley Valley electoral districts. In spite of opposition from residents of Mackenzie, he refused to return it to a Prince George based district. The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations (see The North, Map 6), retaining eight electoral districts in the North.

[illegible]

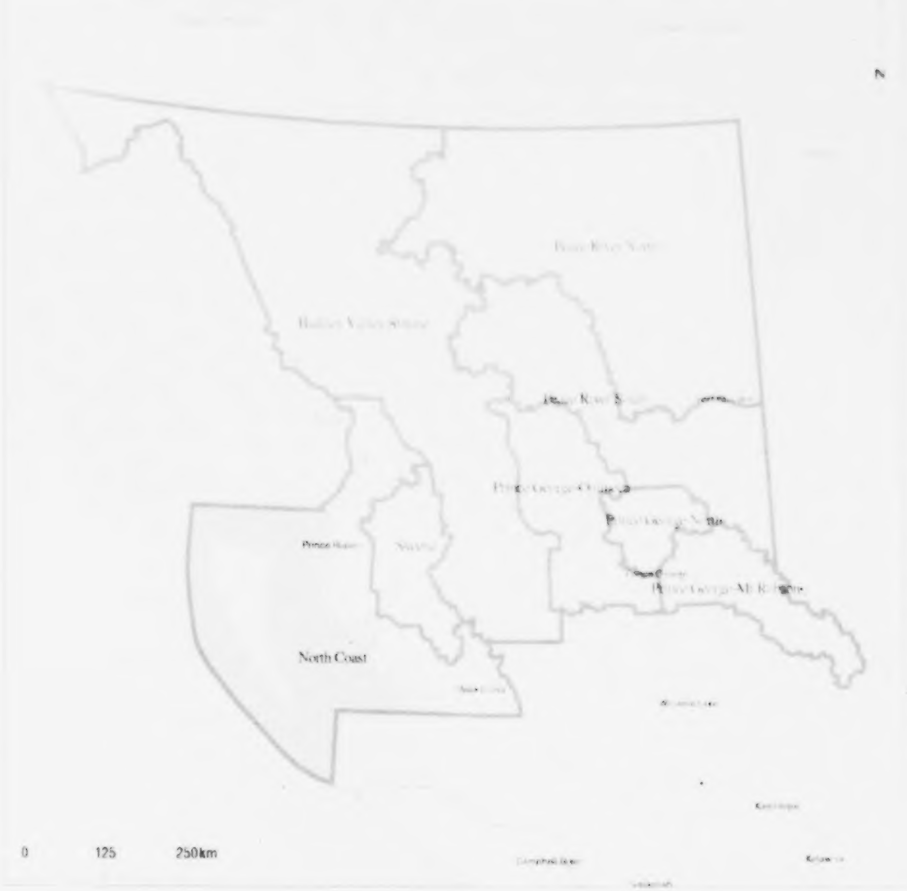
Judge Fisher was determined to create electoral districts whose deviations fell within his self imposed limit of plus or minus 25 percent. The sparsely populated North proved to be his most difficult challenge: "I was deeply moved by testimony detailing the hardships experienced by residents of this frontier and concerned about the expressions of feelings of alienation from centres of economic and political power in the south."

In his interim report, Judge Fisher proposed that eight ridings be retained in the North (see The North, Map 5). Specifically, he recommended that:

- the electoral districts of Prince Rupert (minus 38 percent) and Atlin (minus 85 percent) be merged into a new district, to be named North Coast–Stikine, extending as far south as Hartley Bay, as requested by that community;
- Skeena (plus 12.8 percent) be reduced in size by drawing the new northeast boundary between Terrace and New Hazelton;
- a new district be created, to be named Bulkley Valley;
- Prince George be increased from two to three electoral districts: Prince George–Omineca, Prince George North and Prince George–Mount Robson; and,


N
Peace River North
North Coast–Stikine
Peace River South
Prince George–Omineca
Prince George North
Smithers
Bulkley Valley–Stikine
Prince Rupert
Prince George
Prince George–Mt Robson
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Campbell River
Kelowna
0
125
250km

The North, Map 5


Peace River North
Bulkley Valley-Stikine
Peace River South
Prince George-Omineca
Prince George North
Prince George-Mt. Robson
Prince Rupert
Skeena
North Coast
0
125
250km

The North, Map 6

- the unacceptably low population of South Peace River should be augmented by including in that district the community of Mackenzie and surrounding area, in order to bring that district within his minus 25 percent goal.

In his final report, Judge Fisher affirmed his earlier decision to propose eight electoral districts for the region (although population alone would have warranted only six districts), given the problems associated with size, sparse population and accessibility. However, he made several significant boundary changes to his proposed North Coast–Stikine and Bulkley Valley electoral districts. In spite of opposition from residents of Mackenzie, he refused to return it to a Prince George based district. The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations (see The North, Map 6), retaining eight electoral districts in the North.

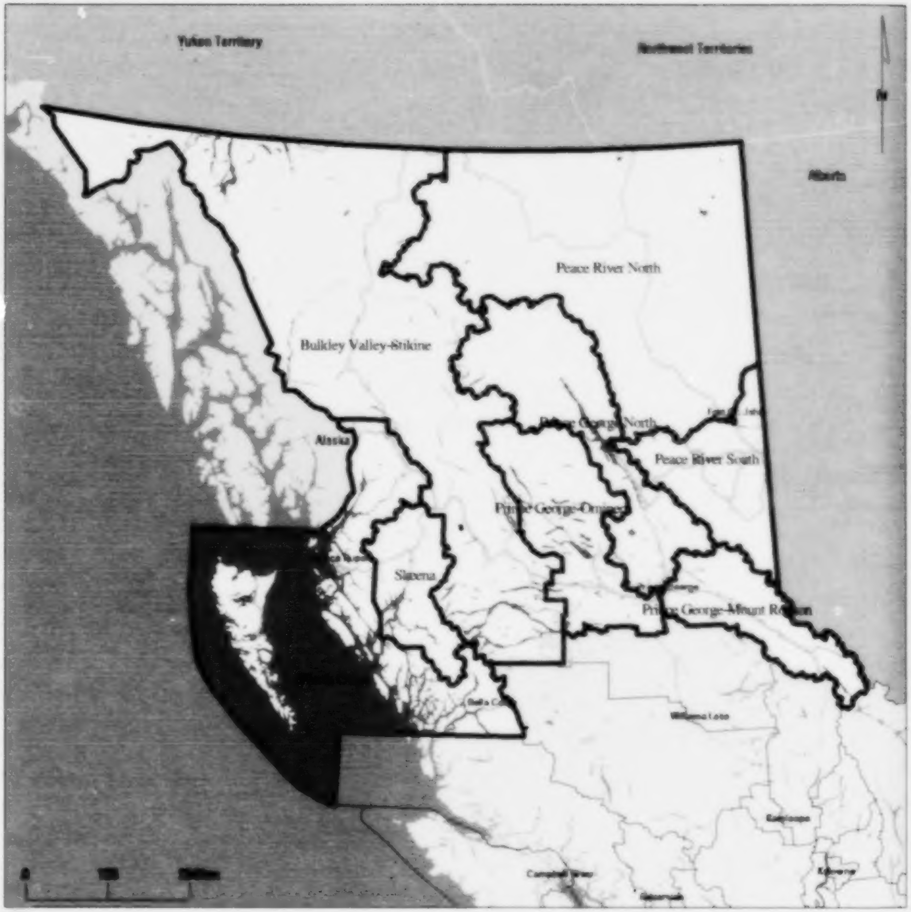
g. The Wood Commission (1999)

In its interim report the Wood Commission made a fundamental policy decision that no region in B.C. should suffer a reduction in its representation. Thus, the North should retain its eight electoral districts (see The North, Map 7).

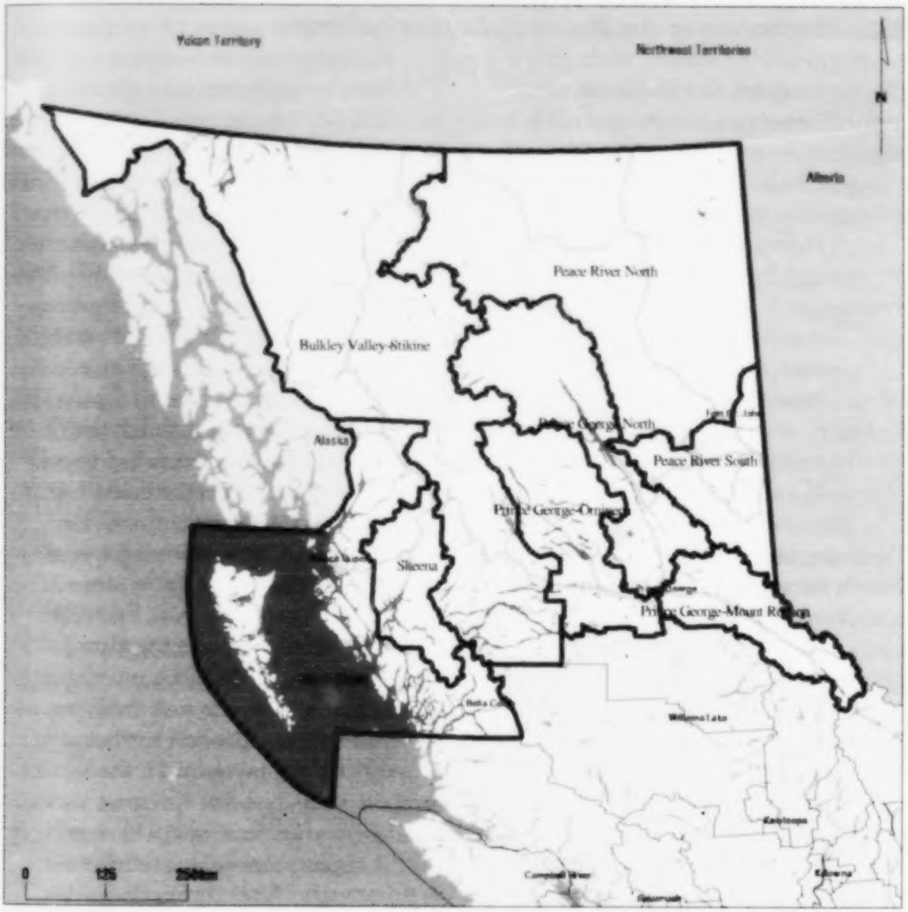
In the west, it recommended retention of the existing three electoral districts. For population reasons, it kept Stewart and the Nass Valley communities in North Coast, rather than including them in Skeena, even though the principal land transportation connection was to Terrace. The commission was troubled that Bulkley Valley–Stikine accounted for over 20 percent of the provincial land mass, but could find no way to reduce this area without simply shifting the problem to another electoral district.

In the central North, the commission was persuaded that Mackenzie and other Rocky Mountain Trench communities should again be part of a Prince George–based electoral district, and that the boundaries of the three electoral districts reaching out from Prince George should be adjusted in order to balance their populations.

In the Peace, after excluding the Rocky Mountain Trench communities from Peace River South, the commission needed to rebalance the populations of the two Peace River electoral districts.


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
N
Alberta
Peace River North
Bulkley Valley-Stikine
Alaska
Prince George North
Peace River South
Prince George-Omineca
Skeena
Prince George-Mount Robson
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Campbell River
Kelowna
0
100
200km

The North, Map 7


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
N
Alberta
Peace River North
Bulkley Valley-Stikine
Fort St. John
Prince George North
Alaska
Peace River South
Prince George-Omineca
Skeena
Prince George
Prince George-Mount Robson
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Kamloops
0
125
250km
Campbell River
Kelowna

The North, Map 8

It recommended that the dividing line be moved north of the Peace River, to run along the eastern municipal boundary of Fort St. John, to include several communities just outside the city limits in the Peace River South district.

In its final report, the Wood Commission made several technical changes to its earlier recommendations (see The North, Map 8), but maintained its decision to include the Rocky Mountain Trench communities in a Prince George–based electoral district.

Having commenced its boundary setting task with a policy decision not to reduce the number of electoral districts in the North, the Wood Commission was able to create three electoral districts spreading out from Prince George that came within the statutory limit of minus 25 percent. However, even after some boundary adjustments the remaining five electoral districts exceeded this limit, ranging from minus 27.4 percent (Skeena) to minus 34.4 percent (Peace River South), based on 1996 census data.

The commission was satisfied that all five of these electoral districts constituted "very special circumstances" within the meaning of section 9(1)(c) of the legislation, justifying deviations in excess of minus 25 percent. The commission was persuaded that residents of the North felt a strong sense of alienation from Victoria, that they believed that they needed to retain their present level of representation in

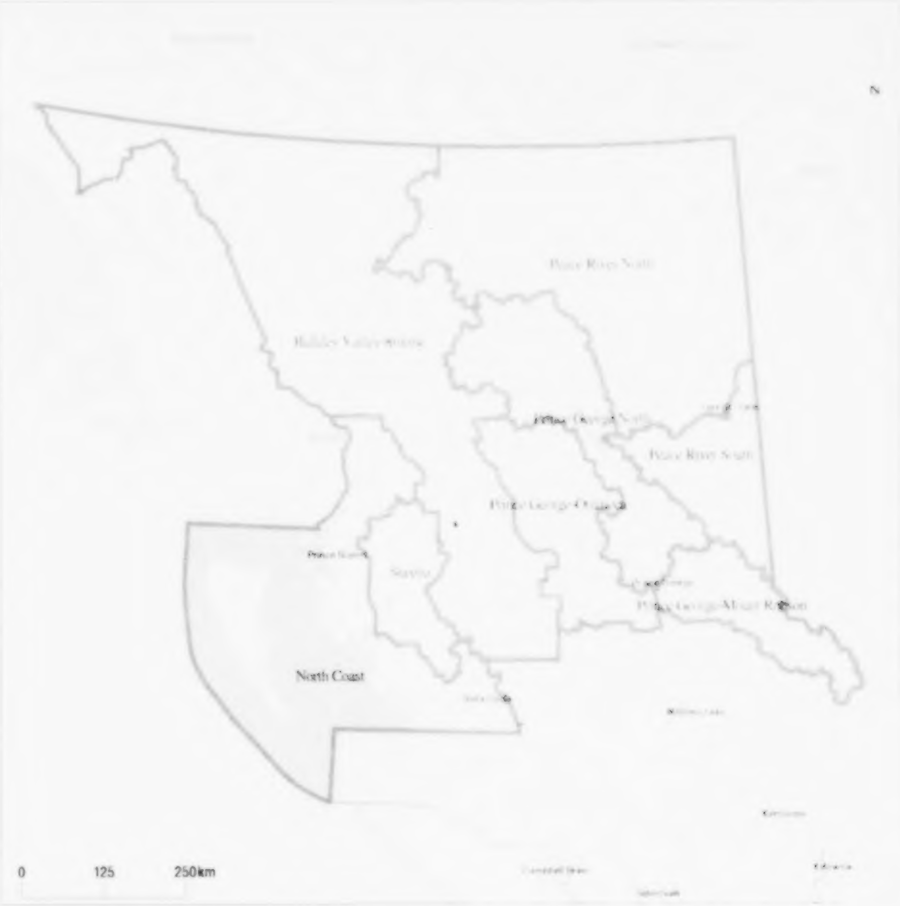
2. The Wood Commission (1999)

In its interim report the Wood Commission made a fundamental policy decision that no region in B.C. should suffer a reduction in its representation. Thus, the North should retain its eight electoral districts (see The North, Map 7).

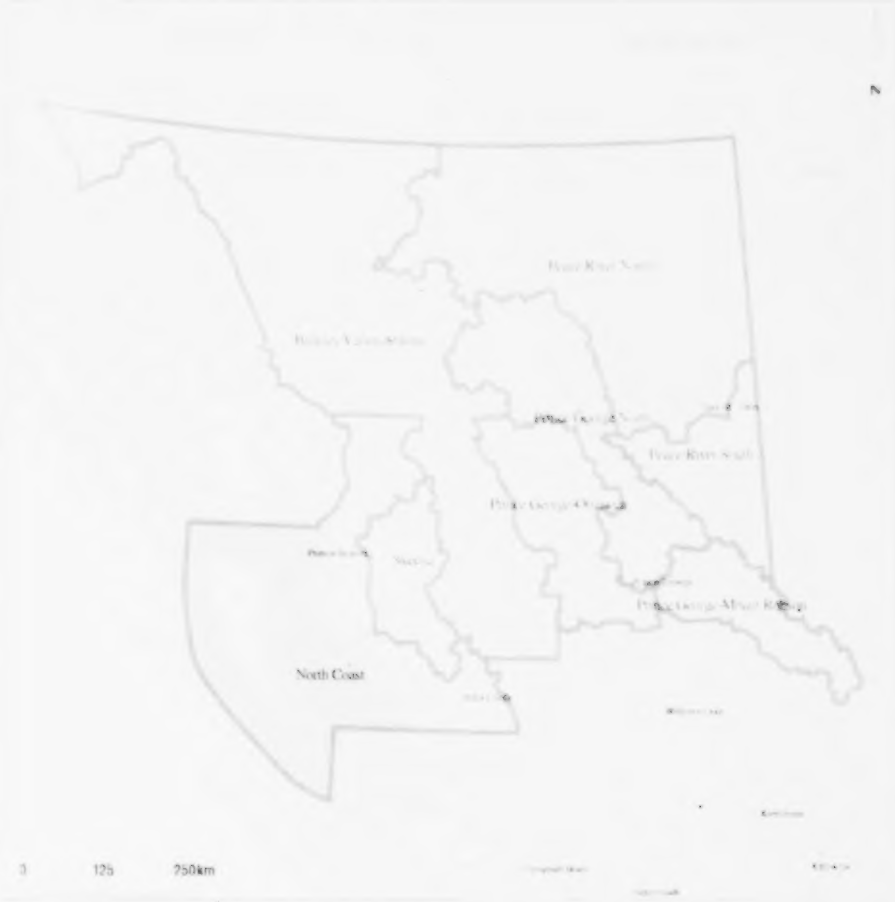
In the west, it recommended retention of the existing three electoral districts. For population reasons, it kept Stewart and the Nass Valley communities in North Coast, rather than including them in Skeena, even though the principal land transportation connection was to Terrace. The commission was troubled that Bulkley Valley–Stikine accounted for over 20 percent of the provincial land mass, but could find no way to reduce this area without simply shifting the problem to another electoral district.

In the central North, the commission was persuaded that Mackenzie and other Rocky Mountain Trench communities should again be part of a Prince George–based electoral district, and that the boundaries of the three electoral districts reaching out from Prince George should be adjusted in order to balance their populations.

In the Peace, after excluding the Rocky Mountain Trench communities from Peace River South, the commission needed to rebalance the populations of the two Peace River electoral districts.


N
Peace River North
Bulkley Valley-Stikine
Prince George North
Peace River South
Prince George-Omineca
Prince Rupert
Skeena
Prince George-Mount Robson
North Coast
0
125
250km

The North, Map 7



The North, Map 8

It recommended that the dividing line be moved north of the Peace River, to run along the eastern municipal boundary of Fort St. John, to include several communities just outside the city limits in the Peace River South district.

In its final report, the Wood Commission made several technical changes to its earlier recommendations (see The North, Map 8), but maintained its decision to include the Rocky Mountain Trench communities in a Prince George–based electoral district.

Having commenced its boundary setting task with a policy decision not to reduce the number of electoral districts in the North, the Wood Commission was able to create three electoral districts spreading out from Prince George that came within the statutory limit of minus 25 percent. However, even after some boundary adjustments the remaining five electoral districts exceeded this limit, ranging from minus 27.4 percent (Skeena) to minus 34.4 percent (Peace River South), based on 1996 census data.

The commission was satisfied that all five of these electoral districts constituted "very special circumstances" within the meaning of section 9(1)(c) of the legislation, justifying deviations in excess of minus 25 percent. The commission was persuaded that residents of the North felt a strong sense of alienation from Victoria, that they believed that they needed to retain their present level of representation in order to receive effective representation, and that any reduction in representation would heighten their sense of injustice. In finding "very special circumstances" in specific cases, the Wood Commission relied on the usual factors that would justify any deviation – history, large geographical areas, remoteness, inaccessibility and strong regional identities. There was nothing qualitatively different in these areas; the factors were simply more extreme.

The Wood Commission ended its analysis with the following caution (June 1999 report, p. 62), which bears repeating:

> In the absence of some statutory solution similar to that in place in Saskatchewan, by which the electoral representation of rural British Columbia can be guaranteed at its present level, *the next commission may well find it impossible, under the current legislative framework, to avoid recommending a reduction in the number of electoral districts in the rural areas of the province.* (Emphasis added.)

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's proposals, retaining eight electoral districts, but it did not introduce legislation to address the caution articulated by the commission.

2. *Our analysis of the North's electoral districts*

The area we describe as the North region currently has eight electoral districts. (see map, page 86.) We have grouped these into subsets:

- West
    - North Coast, Skeena
    - and Bulkley Valley–Stikine
- Central
    - Prince George–Omineca
    - Prince George North
    - Prince George–Mount Robson.
- Peace
    - Peace River South
    - Peace River North.

These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census and now, are as follows (see Table 6):

TABLE 6: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE NORTH

Electoral District	**1996 deviation***	**2006 deviation****
North Coast	-32.8%	-51.2%
Skeena	-27.4%	-43.8%
Bulkley Valley–Stikine	-31.8%	-41.1%
Prince George–Omineca	-20.7%	-29.1%
Prince George North	-17.9%	-32.8%
Prince George–Mount Robson	-15.8%	-32.8%
Peace River South	-34.4%	-44.6%
Peace River North	-34.2%	-32.5%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

If we were to create electoral districts in the North so that the population of each electoral district approximated the provincial electoral quotient, there would be only five electoral districts. In 1999, the Wood Commission made a "…commitment to preserve rural representation and to ensure that no region of the Province loses representation."[55] This meant that the North would retain its eight electoral districts. However, because so much of the North is sparsely populated, five of those eight electoral districts had populations more than 25 percent below the provincial electoral quotient, and they were accordingly granted "very special circumstances" status.

Based on current population data for the North (pop. 256,196), all of the eight electoral districts now have populations more than 25 percent below the provincial electoral quotient for 79 electoral districts. The first question we had to address, therefore, was whether "very special circumstances" currently exist in those eight districts. Earlier in this report (see Part 5), we discussed our approach to "very special circumstances." Pivotal to that analysis is our conclusion that "very special circumstances" must be determined on a district-by-district basis. Thus, in our view it is necessary for us to work through, in turn, the current electoral districts in the North.

---

[55] Wood Commission *Amendments to the December 3, 1998 Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia*, June 3, 1999, p. 2.

We began by reviewing what people had told us during the public consultation sessions. We also identified anomalies that emerged from the Wood Commission report – areas that should have been placed into one electoral district, but were put into another for overriding population reasons. Before long we had developed a list of communities that should be kept together, and of geographically based challenges that seemed insurmountable, including the following:

- The northwest coast area will inevitably be very challenging for an MLA to represent. It has many small coastal communities accessible only by water or seaplane, with many constituents living on Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands), a seven-hour ferry ride. The current North Coast electoral district's population rests far below the provincial electoral quotient, with little scope for adding constituents without encroaching into Terrace and Kitimat.
- People living in Stewart and the Nisga'a Nation communities in the Nass Valley are currently in the North Coast electoral district. Their Prince Rupert–based MLA must drive five hours through another electoral district (Skeena) in order to meet with them. They should be in the same electoral district as their principal trading centre (Terrace).
- Atlin is one of B.C.'s most remote communities, lying a few kilometres south of the Yukon border in the northwest corner of the province. Its residents must drive into the Yukon before driving either south on Highway 37 to Terrace, or east along the Alaska Highway to Fort Nelson and Fort St. John.
- Prince George is B.C.'s largest urban centre in the North, with a population of just under 71,000 – too large for one electoral district, but not large enough for two. Prince George is currently divided among three urban-rural electoral districts, which start in downtown Prince George and stretch far out from the city to the west, the north and the southeast. We understand the rationale of the Wood Commission to use Prince George as the anchor for these three electoral districts, as a way of balancing the population evenly among all three electoral districts. However, we believe that the issues of concern to the city's urban residents may be different from the issues facing the small communities at the extremities of those districts. To the extent possible, we think that each electoral district in this area should be composed of constituents who share similar community interests.
- Residents of the Peace River are physically isolated from the rest of the North by the Rocky Mountains, and there is little community interest between them and population centres to the west and south. With a population of about 64,000 distributed throughout a vast territory, the Peace has too many people for one electoral district, but scarcely enough for two.

The total population of the current eight electoral districts in the North stands at 256,196. All of the electoral districts exceed the limit, with deviations ranging from minus 29.1 percent (Prince George–Omineca) to minus 51.2 percent (North Coast). If it were possible to reconfigure all eight electoral districts so that each one had exactly the same population (32,025), then each electoral district would have a deviation of minus 38.5 percent, based on 79 electoral districts. If the number of electoral districts were increased to the maximum of 85, the deviation would be minus 33.8 percent.

a. The West

The current North Coast electoral district stretches from Stewart in the north to Bella Bella in the south to Haida Gwaii in the west, with Prince Rupert as its principal population centre. We wholeheartedly accept the many submissions that it is an exceedingly difficult district to represent. There are very few kilometers of paved roads, and many communities are accessible only by water, by expensive seaplane service or by arduous ferry service from northern Vancouver Island or between Prince Rupert and Haida Gwaii. North Coast currently has a minus 51.2 percent deviation. The only way to increase its population would be to expand the district eastward. If we brought Terrace (pop. 11,320) into North Coast, it would not bring the electoral district within the statutory limit as the deviation would be minus 29.4 percent with 79 electoral districts. It would also result in Terrace and its neighbour Kitimat being in different electoral districts ignoring community interests – an unacceptable solution.

Thus, we concluded that North Coast should remain largely intact (see proposed North Coast electoral district map, page 88), subject to several boundary adjustments:

- That Stewart and the Nisga'a Nation communities in the Nass Valley (pop. 2,440) be included in the same electoral district as Terrace. The transportation corridor for these communities lies within the same electoral district as Terrace. Furthermore, Terrace is the source for regional services.
- That the southern boundary of North Coast be extended farther south, to the northern boundary of the Mount Waddington Regional District and east to the western boundary of the Cariboo Regional District.

With 81 electoral districts, the proposed North Coast electoral district will have a deviation of minus 54.4 percent. We are satisfied that it constitutes an extraordinary case, having regard to its geography and the challenges to representation thereby caused, and the blunt reality that there are no other population centres that could be brought into the district without causing unjustifiable disruptions to well-established community interests. It is, in our view, an instance where respect for geography and community interests must take priority over population.

b. The Peace

For over 50 years this region has had two electoral districts, not because its population justified two, but for overriding geographical and demographic reasons. Currently, Peace River South includes Dawson Creek, Chetwynd, Tumbler Ridge and Taylor, while Peace River North includes Fort St. John, Hudson's Hope and Fort Nelson. The traditional dividing line between the north and south Peace is the Peace River. However, in 1999 the Wood Commission moved this boundary farther north from the Peace River to the southern edge of Fort St. John, in an attempt to balance the population between the two electoral districts. In that redistribution, both electoral districts were granted "very special circumstances" status, with deviations of minus 34 percent each. They now have deviations of minus 32.5 percent (North) and minus 44.6 percent (South).

We first examined whether the Peace should retain two electoral districts and, if it should, whether one of its electoral districts should be joined with communities to the west and south, in order to bolster its population.

Driving from Prince George to Dawson Creek along Highway 97 through the Rocky Mountains dramatizes how physically separate the Peace region is from the rest of the province. Oil and gas production, coal extraction, ranching and farming drive the Peace economy. The Peace is geographically part of the Prairies, and residents of the Peace have a natural affinity with Albertans. We understand there are few community interests between the southern Peace communities (Chetwynd, Dawson Creek, Fort St. John and Hudson's Hope) and the Rocky Mountain Trench communities, such as Mackenzie. The trade route for Mackenzie is Prince George, not the Peace. In 1988, the Fisher Commission created a Peace River South electoral district that stretched from Dawson Creek in the east to Mackenzie and all of Williston Lake in the west. It was an unpopular decision, which Judge Fisher felt compelled to make in order to create electoral districts that came within his self-imposed deviation limit of minus 25 percent. In 1999, the Wood Commission characterized the linking of the Rocky Mountain Trench communities to Peace River South as an artificial connection, and returned them to a Prince George–based electoral district.

Learning from history, we do not believe that the Peace region should be joined with Mackenzie and the other Rocky Mountain Trench communities. The Peace is a distinct area of the province, and we agree with the Wood Commission that combining the Peace with these communities would be an artificial connection.

Having made that decision, we must next decide whether the Peace region, with a total population of just 63,994, should continue to have two electoral districts or should be combined into one. We have concluded that there should be two electoral districts – combining it into a single district would give it a deviation of plus 26 percent based on 81 electoral districts – untenable, particularly so for such a geographically large, sparsely populated area of the province.

If there are to be two electoral districts, how should the Peace be divided? If we simply balanced the total Peace population between two electoral districts, each would have a deviation of minus 37 percent, putting both outside the statutory limit. It might be possible to justify "very special circumstances" status for the northern electoral district, but this would not be true for the relatively compact southern electoral district. It would also mean dividing Fort St. John between the two electoral districts, which should be avoided if possible.

The Peace has urban and rural components. Dawson Creek (pop. 10,994) and Fort St. John (pop. 17,402) are significant urban population centres, only 70 km apart, connected by a paved highway and with regular flights to Vancouver. Combining them, along with Taylor (just south of Fort St. John), Pouce Coupé (just east of Dawson Creek) and Tumbler Ridge, would create a compact, easy-to-serve electoral district sharing many community interests (see map of proposed Peace River electoral district). It would have a deviation of minus 19 percent.

The remaining area of the Peace stretches from Chetwynd (pop. 2,633) and Hudson's Hope (pop. 1,012) in the south to Fort Nelson (pop. 4,514) and several other small Alaska Highway communities in the north. The current Peace River North electoral district extends westward to the point where the Alaska Highway crosses into the Yukon. Historically it has stopped there, rather than going a few kilomemeters further west to include B.C.'s most westerly Alaska Highway community, Lower Post. In our view, Lower Post has a much more natural community interest with the other Alaska Highway communities further east, and ought to be included in the same Peace-oriented electoral district, rather than in Bulkley Valley–Stikine.

Moving further west, the small community of Atlin (pop. 457) has no road access to any other B.C. community. Residents must drive north into the Yukon, connecting to the Alaska Highway at Jakes Corner, 75 km south of Whitehorse. From there, they must drive southeastwardly to Watson Lake, where they must choose between continuing southeastwardly on the all-year Alaska Highway to Fort Nelson, or turning southward on less reliable Highway 37 to Terrace.

Currently, Atlin is included in the Bulkley Valley–Stikine electoral district. Regardless of which electoral district Atlin is in, its remoteness will always present a challenge for face-to-face communication between its residents and their MLA.[56] On balance, we believe that the interests of the residents of Atlin would be better served if they were included in a Peace-oriented electoral district, primarily because of the significantly better highway connection to Fort Nelson.

Consequently, we are proposing that the northern Peace electoral district, which we propose be named Northland, extend westward to include Lower Post and Atlin. This electoral district is, by any definition, a vast, rural, sparsely populated territory.

After making some boundary adjustments so that our proposed Northland electoral district more closely follows the boundaries of the Northern Rockies and Peace River regional districts (see map of proposed Northland electoral district, p. 90), this district will have a deviation of minus 53 percent based on 81 electoral districts. We are satisfied that "very special circumstances" exist in this area, for several reasons. First, residents of this electoral district live in small communities that are spread along an exceptionally long and remote stretch of Highways 29 and 97. While it is true that recent advances in electronic communication have made it possible for more constituents in rural areas and their MLAs to communicate with each other on some matters without face-to-face meetings, there are still times when an MLA, to ensure effective representation, must make personal visits to the communities in his or her constituency, such as for town hall meetings.

Second, the reality is that, without crossing the Rocky Mountains, there are no other sources of population available to increase the area's population to a point that its deviation would be less than minus 25 percent. It is our province's closest counterpart to the vast northern electoral districts that exist in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.[57]

c. The Central North

There are currently five electoral districts east of North Coast and west of the Peace – three of them are centred around Prince George, plus Bulkley Valley–Stikine and Skeena further west. When the Wood Commission established them in 1999, they had deviations ranging from minus 17.8 percent to minus 31 percent. Based on the 2006 census and with 79 electoral districts, the deviations now range from minus 29.1 percent to minus 43.8 percent. With 85 electoral districts, the range would be minus 23.7 percent to minus 39.5 percent.

Our initial approach was to try to retain all five electoral districts. Simply rebalancing the remaining population among the five electoral districts did not work because, with a total population of 166,777, each district would have a deviation of over minus 35 percent, based on 79 electoral districts in total, outside the statutory limit. Even if the number of electoral districts were increased to 85, the rebalanced districts would have a deviation of minus 30.3 percent.

We then considered retaining the Wood Commission's approach of centering three electoral districts around Prince George. We found that by dividing the city, we could create three Prince George–centred districts, each with a deviation of minus 25 percent, putting them all just within the statutory limit. Each of these three electoral districts would start in Prince George and then stretch out to the west, north and southeast, as do the current ridings.

---

[56] In late 2006 it was announced that, due to a partnership between Industry Canada's Broadband for Rural and Northern Development Pilot Project Initiative and Atlin Community Network Society, high speed wireless internet access is now available to homes, businesses and institutions in Atlin and outlying areas such as the Pine Creek subdivision, Lakeview, Taku River Tlingit First Nation village and Five Mile First Nations Reserve.

[57] Two Canadian appellate courts have upheld legislation that authorized deviations of up to minus 50 percent for northern, rural areas: ***Saskatchewan Reference*** (1991), 78 D.L.R. (4th) 449 (Sask. C.A.), reversed on other grounds by the Supreme Court of Canada (1991), 81 D.L.R. (4th) 16; and ***1991 Alberta Reference*** (1991), 86 D.L.R. (4th) 447 (Alta. C.A.).

However, that would mean that the two remaining electoral districts further west, Bulkley Valley–Stikine and Skeena, would have deviations greater than minus 52.4 percent each, based on 79 electoral districts, and minus 48.7 percent based on 85.

We do not believe that this would be a justifiable configuration. Two of the five electoral districts would be significantly outside the statutory limit and the remaining three would very likely join them before the next general election in 2009, resulting in all of the five electoral districts being outside the minus 25 percent statutory limit.

Beginning in the west, most of the constituents in the current Skeena electoral district live in the two principal population centres of Terrace (pop. 11,320) and Kitimat (pop. 8,987). The current deviation is minus 39.1 percent (with the addition of Stewart and the Nass Valley, pop. 2,440) based on 79 electoral districts.

Moving east, the current Bulkley Valley–Stikine electoral district has been reduced in size as a result of our proposal that Atlin and Lower Post be included in our proposed new Northland electoral district. Almost all of its constituents live along, or within 50 kilometres of, a 300 kilometre stretch of Highway 16, between Hazelton and Burns Lake. The remaining district has a deviation of minus 42.3 percent, based on 79 electoral districts.

Moving to Prince George (pop. 70,981), it is too large for one electoral district and not large enough for two, yet the city is currently divided among three. While some people told us that they like this arrangement (or have at least adjusted to it), dividing the city among three electoral districts was done by the 1988 Fisher Commission and the 1999 Wood Commission to facilitate population balancing. It results in three electoral districts that combine urban constituents with rural constituents living hundreds of kilometers away, whose community interests differ widely.

Given Prince George's population, it must inevitably be divided between two electoral districts. The first question that arises is how this division should take place. One option would be to continue the present approach, that would see us divide the city in half and create two Prince George-anchored electoral districts, beginning in the city and stretching out into surrounding rural areas. The other option would be to create one exclusively Prince George electoral district wholly within the municipal boundaries, and then create a second electoral district that includes the balance of the city, surrounding suburban communities and adjacent rural areas.

We favour the latter approach. We feel that it would be beneficial for the residents of Prince George to have an MLA to focus on the community interests of this urban population centre. Consequently, we are proposing the creation of an urban Prince George electoral district (see map of proposed Prince George electoral district page 91).

Having decided that Prince George should be divided between two electoral districts, geography, demography and transportation corridors dictated the parameters of the second Prince George–based district. About 50 percent of this district's population will come from residents of Prince George, with the balance being spread southeasterly along Highway 16 to Valemount and northerly along Highway 97 to Mackenzie. This district includes the communities within the Fraser–Fort George Regional District. We favour following regional district boundaries whenever possible, because regional districts are local government areas that people are familiar with, and because they tend to reflect community interests. Consequently, we are proposing that this new electoral district's outer boundaries (see map of proposed Fraser–Fort George electoral district) correspond exactly to the Fraser–Fort George Regional District. In the south, this means that Hixon and Woodpecker will be included in Fraser–Fort George rather than a Cariboo-based electoral district. With 81 districts, it will have a deviation of minus 18.5 percent.

The remaining area of the central North has a population of 76,442. To distribute this population among three electoral districts would result in deviations averaging minus 49.8 percent (based on 81 districts), a result which, in our view, appears unreasonable given the reality that about 98 percent of this area's population lives along (or within 50 km of) a 580 km stretch of Highway 16 between Terrace and Vanderhoof. Although these electoral districts would contain enormous unpopulated geographical areas, the population of each of these districts would be concentrated along about 200 km of a very accessible highway. We are sensitive to the challenges of winter driving that MLAs in this region face but we are not satisfied that "very special circumstances" exist in these three electoral districts that warrant deviations averaging almost minus 50 percent, when compared to Northland and North Coast districts. We were thus driven to the inevitable conclusion that this part of the central North, stretching from Terrace and the Nisga'a Nation territory in the west to Vanderhoof in the east, can justify only two electoral districts. In order to balance population and at the same time respect community interests, we propose that these two electoral districts be divided midway between New Hazelton and Smithers.

The more westerly electoral district, which we propose be renamed Skeena-Stikine, would include Kitimat, Terrace, Kitwanga, Hazelton, New Hazelton, the Nisga'a Nation in the Nass Valley, and Stewart, as well as the small communities of Dease Lake and Telegraph Creek farther north. It will have a deviation of minus 24.8 percent. It will correspond closely to the Kitimat–Stikine Regional District boundaries (see map of proposed Skeena-Stikine electoral district, page 93).

The more easterly electoral district (which we propose be named Bulkley-Nechako) would include towns stretching eastward along Highway 16, including Smithers, Telkwa, Houston (and Granisle along Highway 118), Burns Lake, Fraser Lake and Vanderhoof (and Fort St. James along Highway 27). It would have a deviation of minus 24.7 percent based on 81 electoral districts. It is almost identical in configuration to the Bulkley-Nechako Regional District (see map of proposed Bulkley-Nechako electoral district, page 94).

3. "Protecting northern representation"

We fully recognize that the electoral districts we are proposing for the North,[58] which has the result of reducing the number of districts from eight to seven, may not be well received by those from around the province who urged the commission to retain the current number of electoral districts in the North.

For example, in a written submission, several points were raised about circumstances facing those who live in the rural areas of the province, including:

- With only eight of 79 MLAs coming from the North, there is a risk that legislation and regulations passed in the legislature affecting the North reflect a Lower Mainland perspective.
- With only 10 percent of B.C.'s MLAs, the North is in a minority position when it comes to representation, and its rights need protection.

---

[58] In this report, we use the term "the North" and "northern" to refer to the land mass contained within the following eight current electoral districts: North Coast, Skeena, Bulkley Valley-Stikine, Prince George–Omineca, Prince George North, Prince George–Mount Robson, Peace River South and Peace River North, and our proposed seven electoral districts. During our public consultation we found that people used the term "northern" with a somewhat less precise meaning to include the North with other sparsely populated rural and remote areas of the province, such as the Cariboo and Northern Vancouver Island areas.

Earlier in this part of the report, we included an excerpt from the Wood Commission report cautioning that, in the absence of some statutory solution, this commission may well find it impossible to avoid proposing a reduction in the number of electoral districts in rural areas of the province. It turns out that they did not overstate the challenge. The population of the eight current electoral districts in the North has dropped by 19,795 since the 1996 census. According to the 2006 census and BC Stat's population projections to 2013, (see Appendix O) the total population of our proposed seven electoral districts in the North will increase by only 3,406 over the next seven years (from 256,879 to 260,285).

In relative terms, the North's population is declining, from 7.4 percent of the B.C. total to 6.2 percent since the 1996 census. The feedback we received from around the province during our consultation sessions spoke to this reality, but many of those we heard from at the sessions or in writing submitted that we should use our legislative authority to recommend an increase in the number of electoral districts as a means of preserving the current number of northern electoral districts. As they expressed it, adding seats in the urban areas of the province because of population increase is not an end in itself, but has an overarching purpose of preserving northern representation.

This notion of linking additional seats to the preservation of the current number of northern electoral districts was reflected in the September 12, 2005 Speech from the Throne, which stated:

> The government will introduce an amendment that it hopes will protect northern representation in the legislature. The amendment will allow the commission to provide for up to 85 members under the current electoral system.

Attorney General Wally Oppal expressed a similar sentiment when he introduced the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005* (Bill 14) on October 24, 2005. He stated in part:

> With the intent of protecting northern representation in the legislature, Bill 14 also gives the commission the necessary flexibility to recommend electoral boundaries up to 85 electoral districts under our current system or up to 85 members under the single transferable vote model.

Unlike some of the other provinces which have enacted legislation to specify the number of electoral districts in rural areas, our legislation has no such provision. On the contrary, our commission is mandated by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* to apply the principle of representation by population for every electoral district and to apply the factors set out in that *Act* as a basis for proposing a change in the boundaries. *The Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* limits deviations from parity up to plus or minus 25 percent. The only exception is where we have concluded that there are very special circumstances. As mentioned earlier, we have concluded that there are only two such proposed electoral districts, namely North Coast and Northland.

In any event, we examined the outcome to the deviations for the current eight electoral districts in the North on the basis of an increase in the number of electoral districts to the maximum permitted by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*. According to the following table, seven of the eight electoral districts in the North would still have deviations exceeding minus 25 percent (see Table 7, page 84).

Thus, even if the commission decided to use its authority to add six electoral districts in the urban areas of the province, it would only marginally ameliorate the deviations found in the current electoral districts in the North.

TABLE 7: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE NORTH – DEVIATIONS WITH 79 AND 85 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

Electoral District	**Population (2006)**	**Deviation with 79 districts**	**Deviation with 85 districts**
Prince George–Omineca	36,905	-29.1%	-23.7%
Peace River North	35,162	-32.5%	-27.3%
Prince George North	35,000	-32.8%	-27.7%
Prince George–Mount Robson	34,968	-32.8%	-27.7%
Bulkley Valley–Stikine	30,648	-41.1%	-36.7%
Skeena	29,256	-43.8%	-39.5%
Peace River South	28,832	-44.6%	-40.4%
North Coast	25,425	-51.2%	-47.5%

We are mindful of the submissions that were made on this subject. As can be seen from our discussion of the northern electoral districts, we approached our task by exploring every possible option to ensure that the points raised with us about these areas of the province were respected as we worked towards our conclusions. At the end of the day it became obvious to us that, on the facts we reviewed in detail, the number of northern electoral districts had to be reduced. However, we are entirely satisfied that the electoral districts proposed in the report are, in every case, to the best of our ability, consistent with the principle and factors set out in the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* and reflect the situation found in all areas of the province.

4. Conclusion

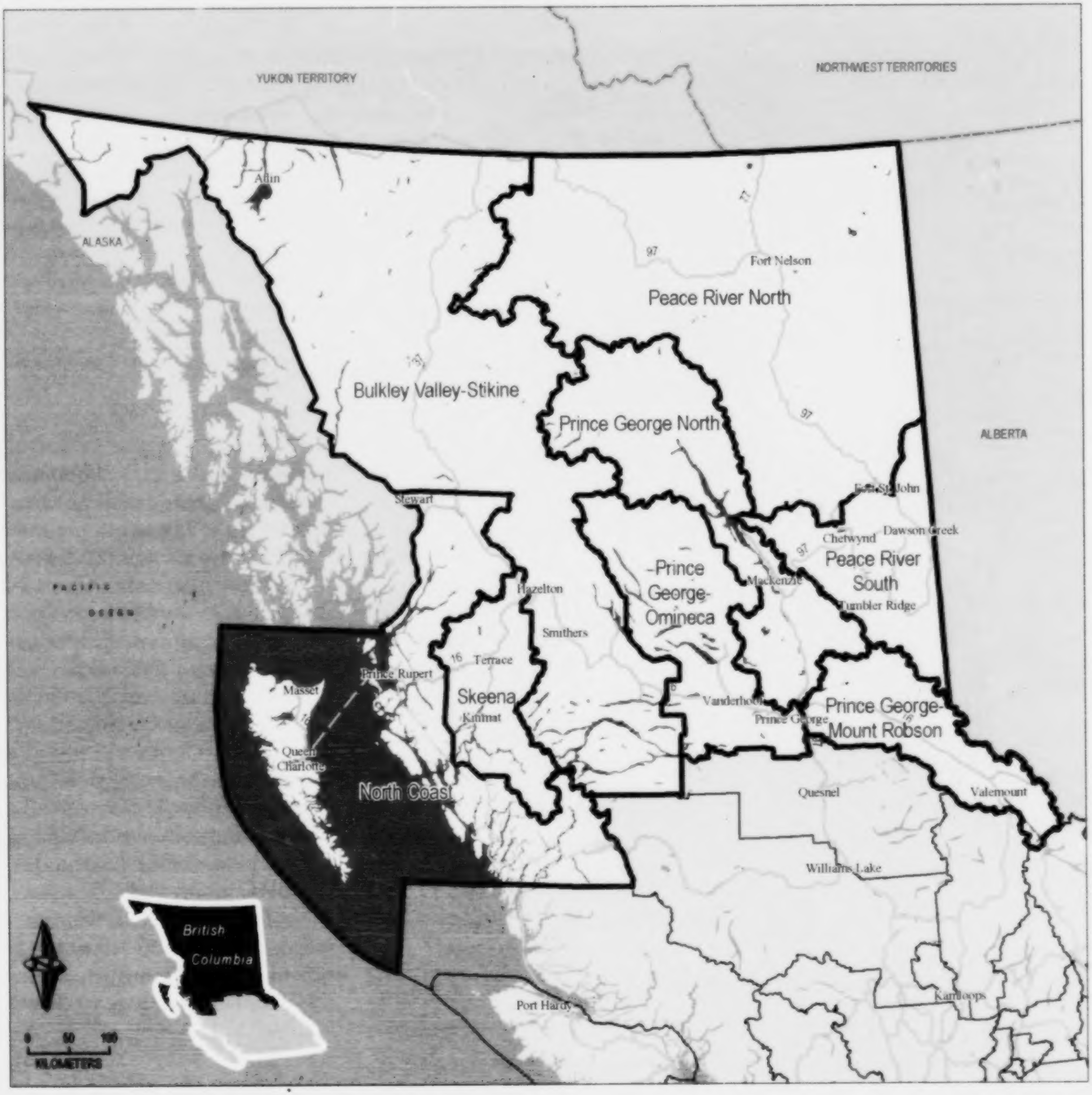
Accordingly, we propose that there be seven electoral districts in the North, as follows:

TABLE 8: PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE NORTH

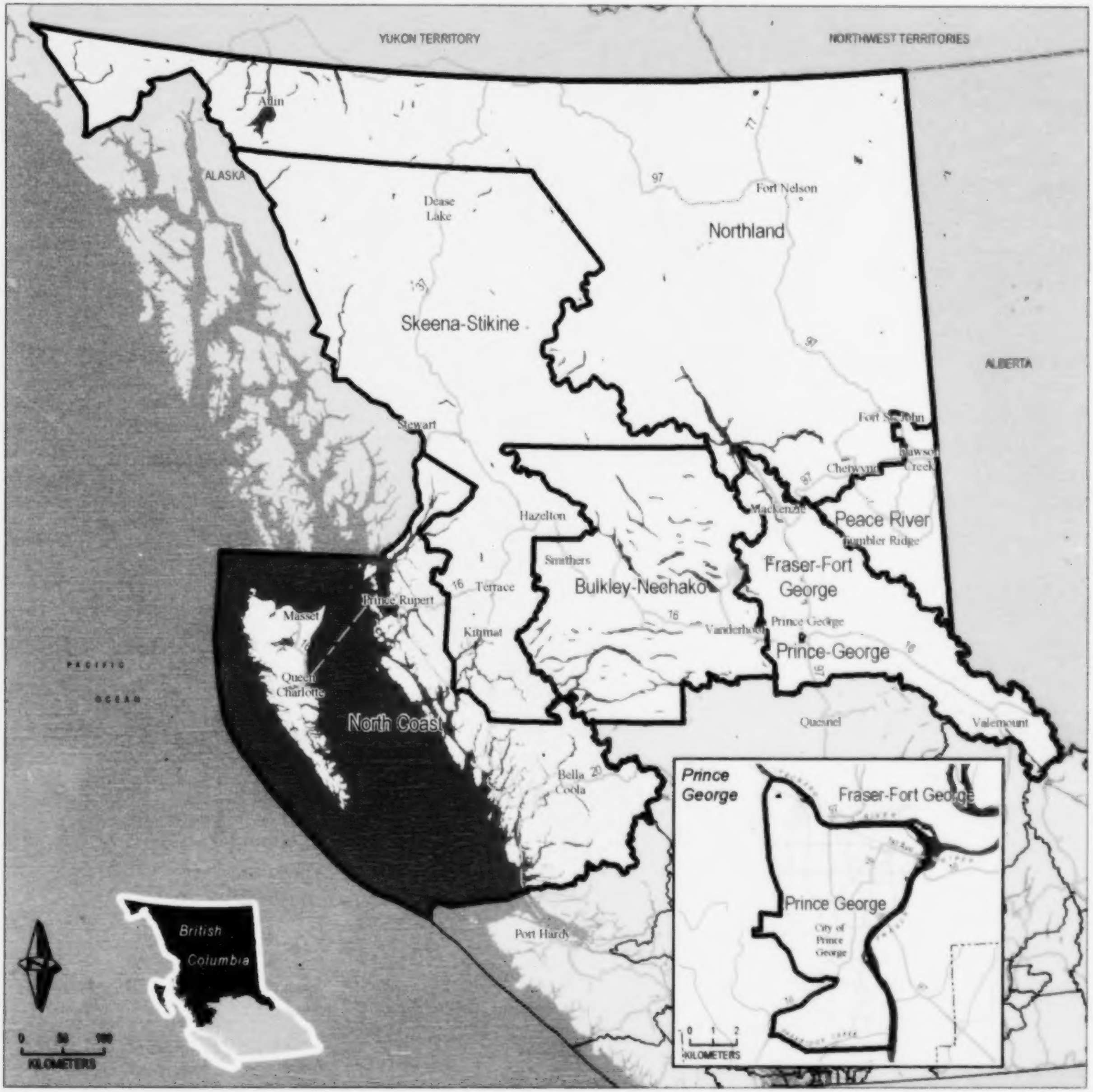
Electoral District	**Sq. Km.**	**Population**	**Deviation***
North Coast	149,977	23,135	-54.4%
Skeena-Stikine	149,292	38,199	-24.8%
Bulkley-Nechako	78,193	38,243	-24.7%
Prince George	49	50,893	+0.2%
Fraser–Fort George	51,832	41,371	-18.5%
Peace River	20,052	41,157	-19%
Northland	254,700	23,881	-53%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

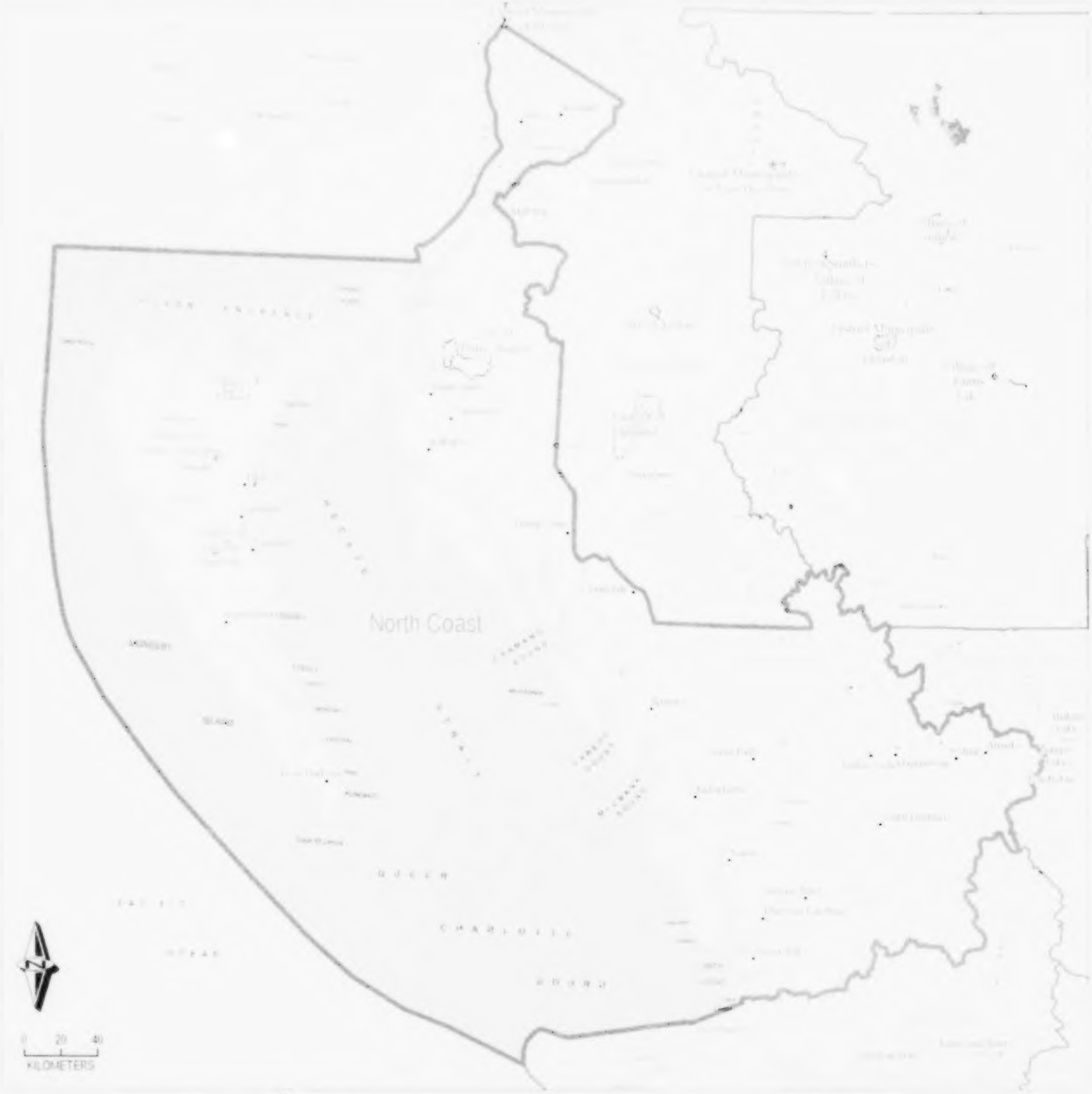
Region: The North – Current Electoral Districts


YUKON TERRITORY
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
ALASKA
ALBERTA
PACIFIC OCEAN
Atlin
Fort Nelson
97
Peace River North
Bulkley Valley-Stikine
Prince George North
Stewart
Fort St. John
Chetwynd
Dawson Creek
Peace River South
Prince George-Omineca
Mackenzie
Tumbler Ridge
Hazelton
Smithers
Terrace
16
Prince Rupert
Masset
Skeena
Kitimat
Queen Charlotte
North Coast
Vanderhoof
Prince George
Prince George-Mount Robson
Quesnel
Valemount
Williams Lake
Port Hardy
Kamloops
British Columbia
0 50 100
KILOMETERS

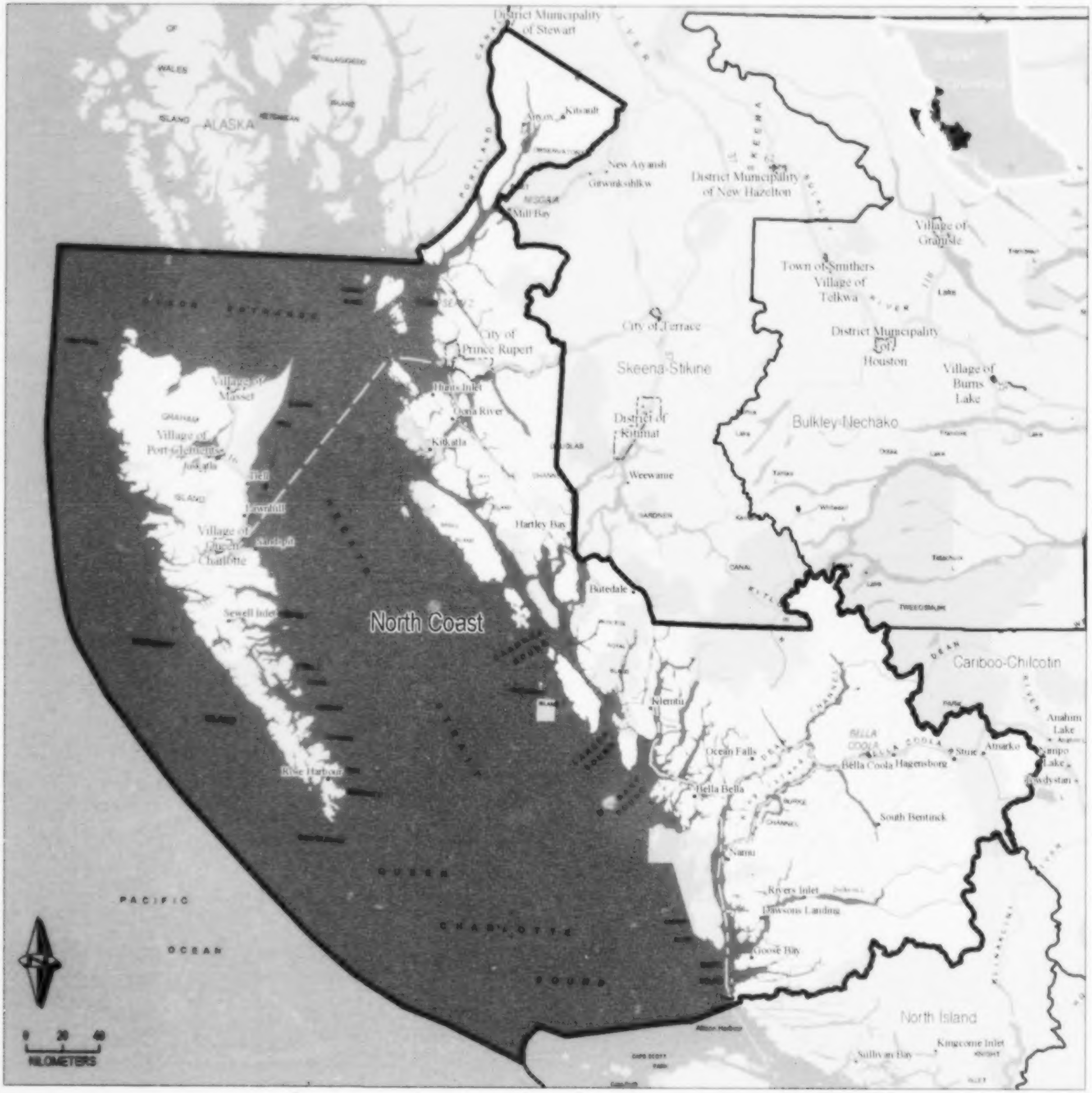
Region: The North – Proposed Electoral Districts


YUKON TERRITORY
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
ALASKA
ALBERTA
PACIFIC OCEAN
Atlin
Dease Lake
97
Fort Nelson
Northland
Skeena-Stikine
Stewart
Fort St. John
Dawson Creek
Chetwynd
Mackenzie
Peace River
Tumbler Ridge
Hazelton
Smithers
Bulkley-Nechako
Fraser-Fort George
16
Terrace
Prince Rupert
Masset
Kitimat
Vanderhoof
Prince George
Prince-George
Queen Charlotte
North Coast
Quesnel
Valemount
Bella Coola
20
Port Hardy
British Columbia
0 50 100
KILOMETERS
Prince George
Fraser-Fort George
Prince George
City of Prince George
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

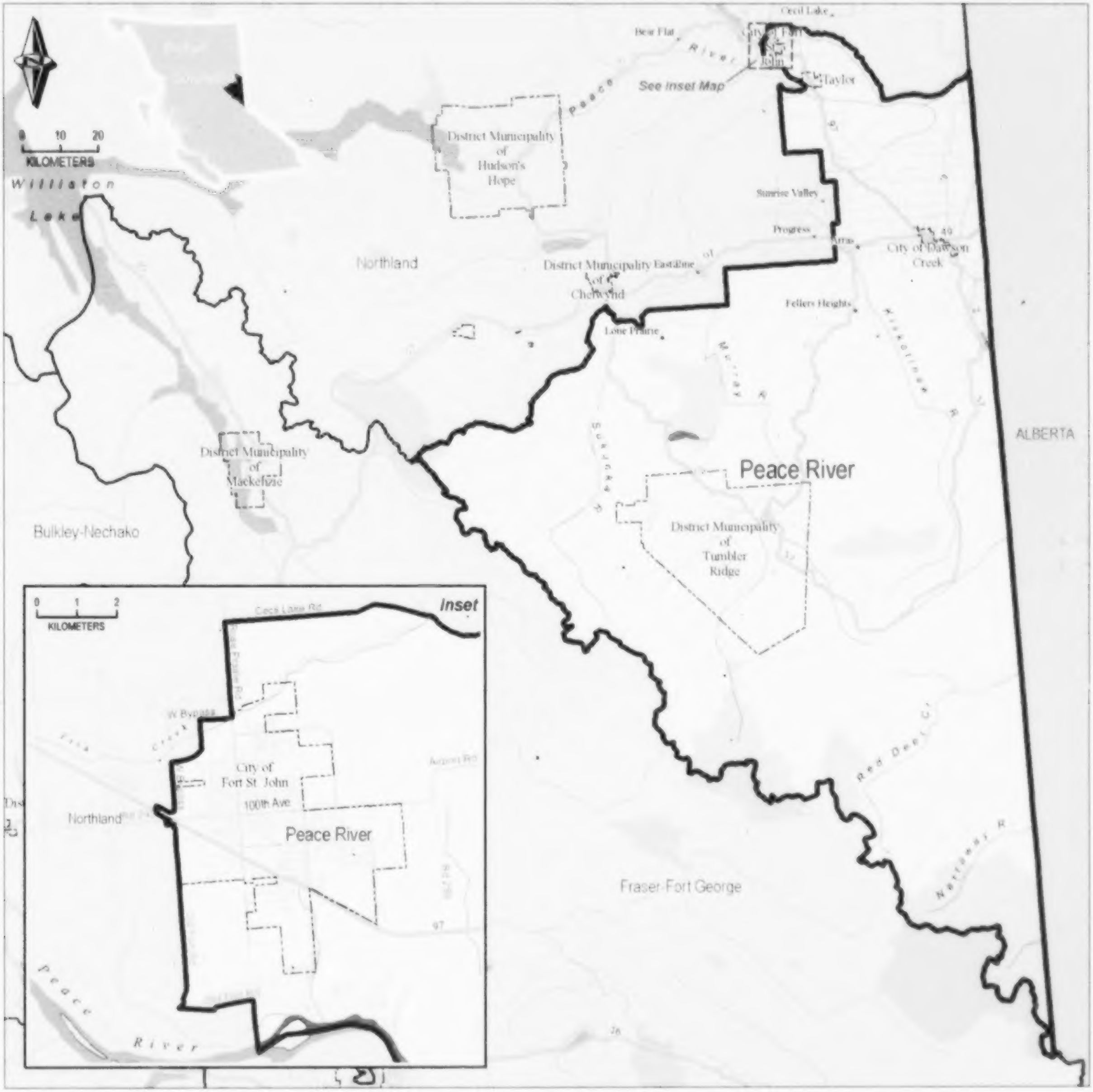
Region: The North – Proposed North Coast Electoral District


North Coast
QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND
PACIFIC OCEAN
0 20 40
KILOMETERS

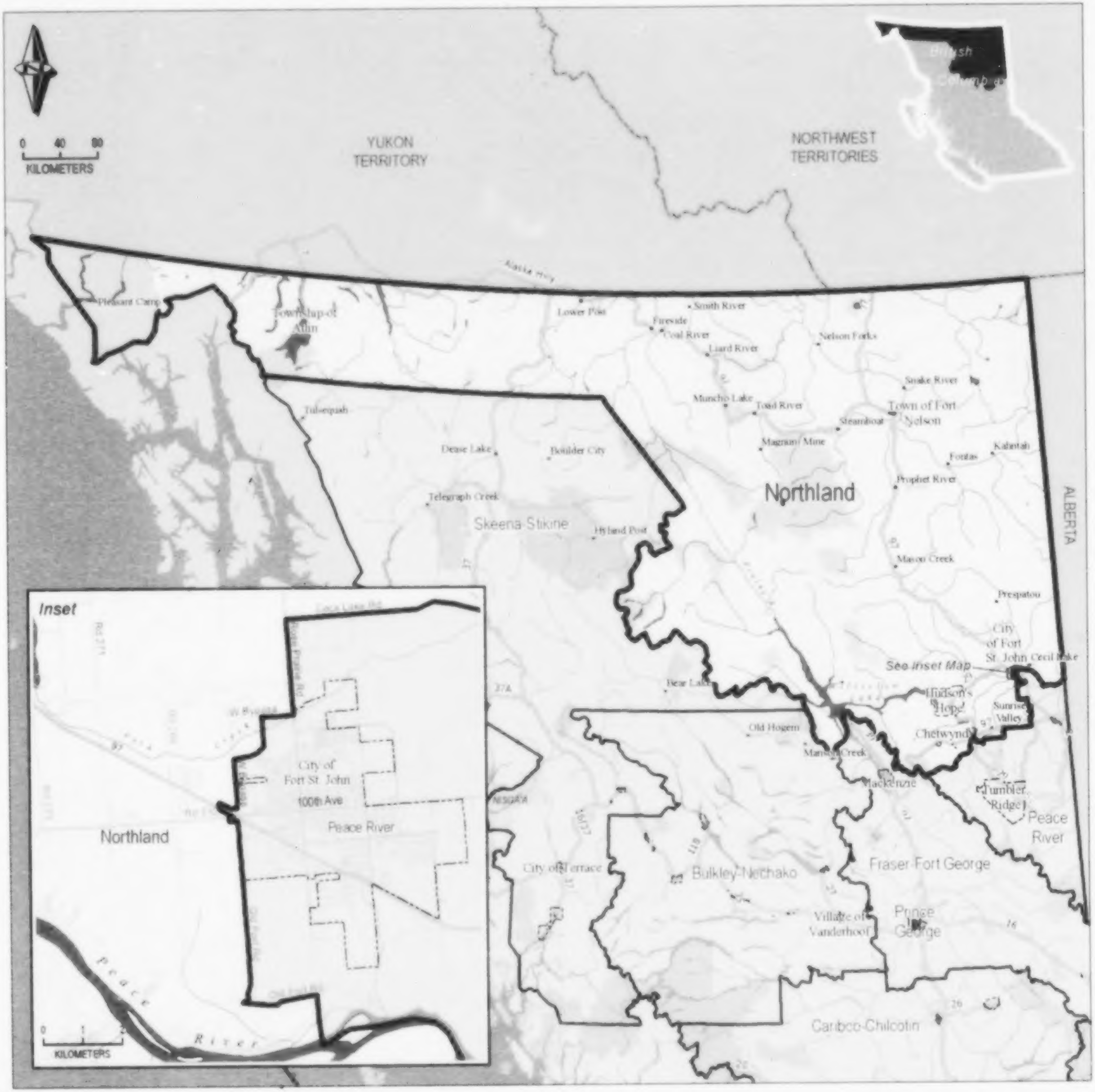
Region: The North – Proposed North Coast Electoral District


District Municipality of Stewart
ALASKA
Kitsault
New Aiyansh
Gitwinksihlkw
Mill Bay
District Municipality of New Hazelton
Village of Granisle
Town of Smithers
Village of Telkwa
City of Terrace
District Municipality of Houston
Village of Burns Lake
City of Prince Rupert
Skeena-Stikine
Bulkley-Nechako
Village of Masset
Hunts Inlet
Oona River
Village of Port Clements
District of Kitimat
Kitkatla
Juskatla
Tlell
Weewanie
Lawnhill
Village of Queen Charlotte
Sandspit
Hartley Bay
Butedale
Sewell Inlet
North Coast
Cariboo-Chilcotin
Klemtu
Ocean Falls
Bella Coola
Hagensborg
Stuie
Atnarko
Anahim Lake
Nimpo Lake
Bella Bella
South Bentinck
Namu
Rose Harbour
Rivers Inlet
Dawsons Landing
Goose Bay
PACIFIC OCEAN
QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND
North Island
Sullivan Bay
Kingcome Inlet
0 20 40
KILOMETERS

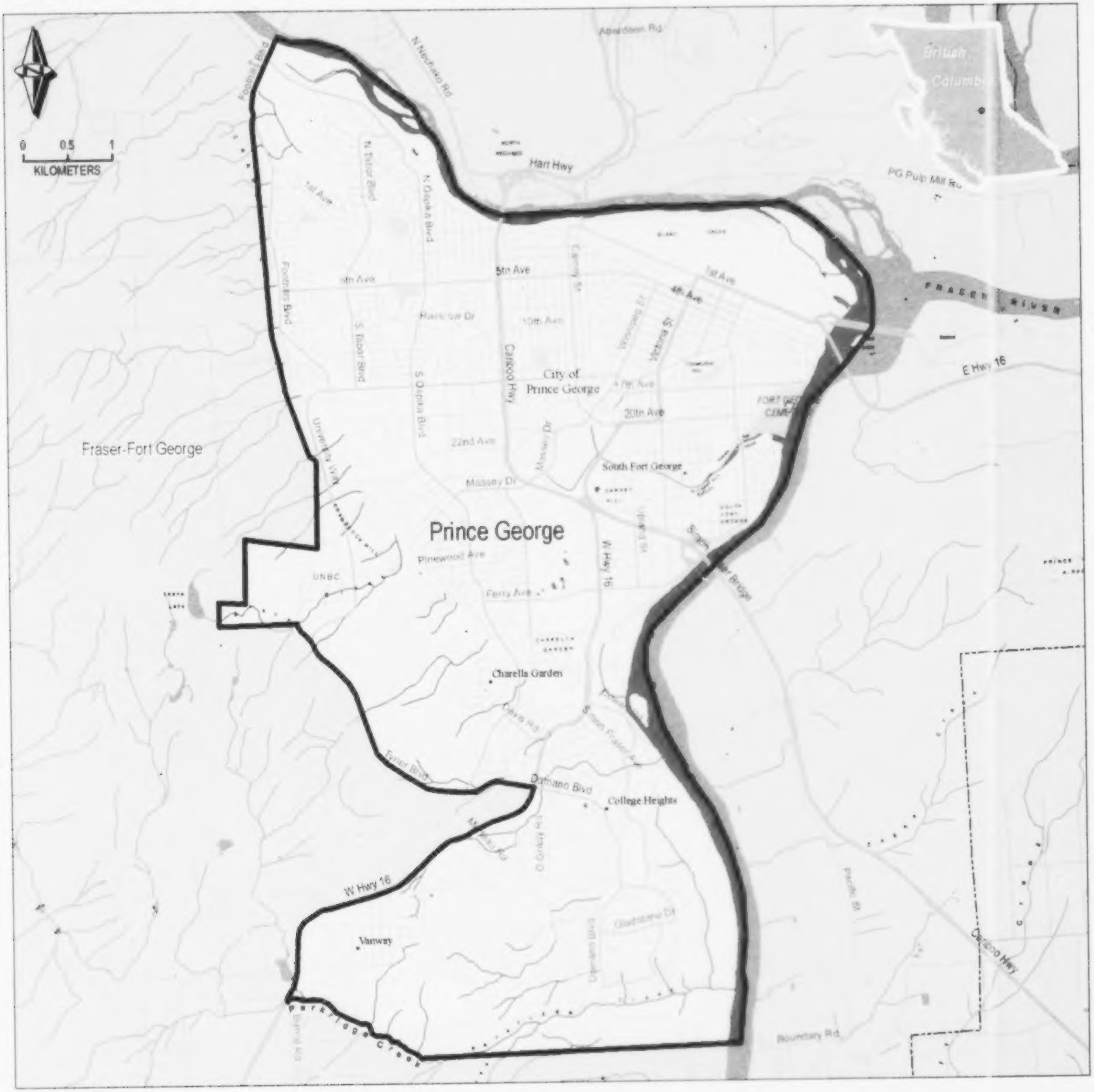
Region: The North – Proposed Peace River Electoral District


0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Williston Lake
Bear Flat
Cecil Lake
City of Fort St. John
Peace River
See Inset Map
Taylor
District Municipality of Hudson's Hope
Sunrise Valley
Progress
Arras
City of Dawson Creek
Northland
District Municipality of Chetwynd
East Pine
Lone Prairie
Fellers Heights
Murray R.
Kiskatinaw R.
Sukunka R.
ALBERTA
District Municipality of Mackenzie
Peace River
District Municipality of Tumbler Ridge
Bulkley-Nechako
Red Deer Cr.
Narraway R.
Fraser-Fort George
Inset
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
Cecil Lake Rd
W Bypass
Fish Creek
Airport Rd
City of Fort St. John
100th Ave
Northland
Peace River
97
Peace River

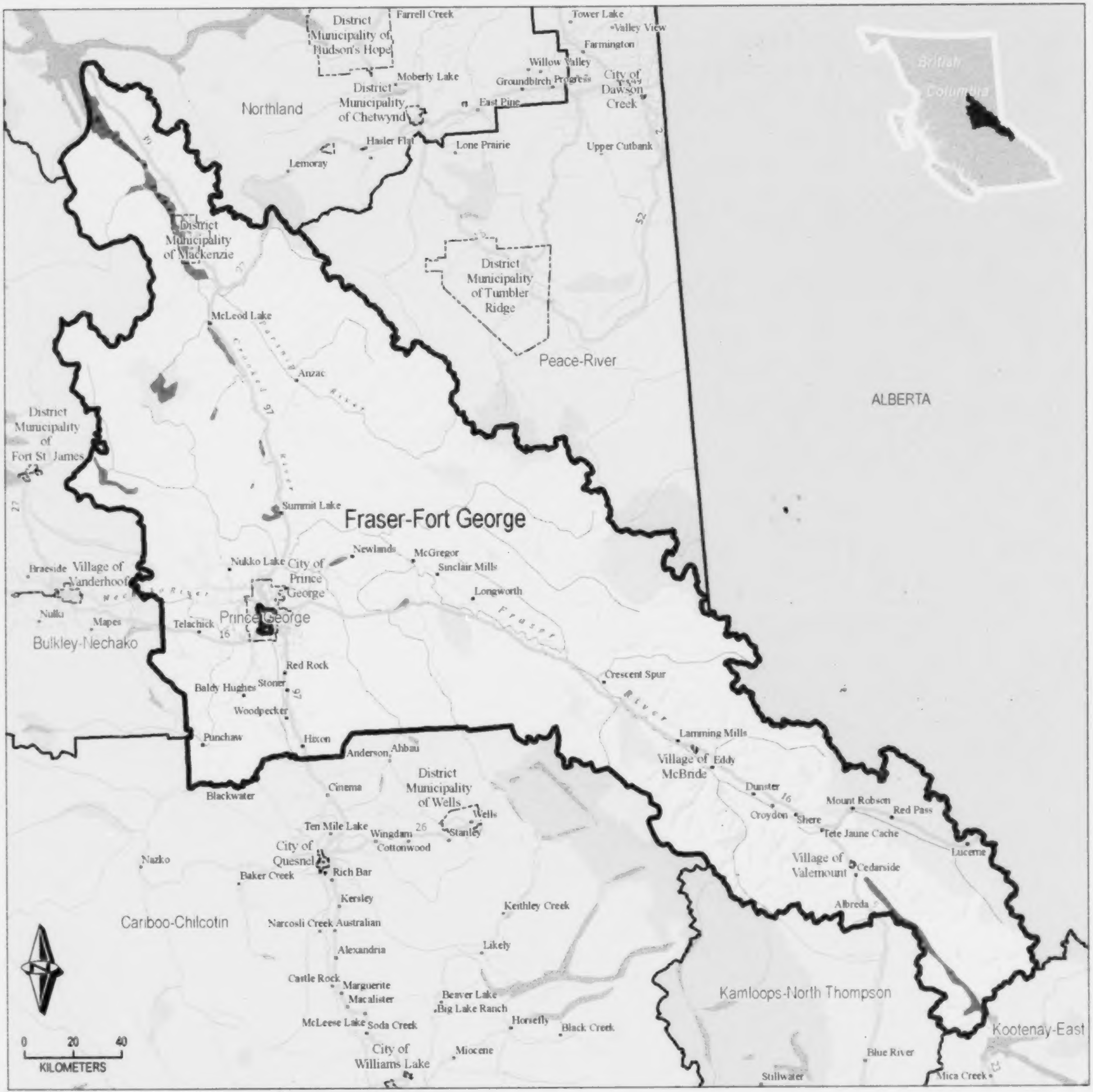
Region: The North – Proposed Northland Electoral District


0 40 80
KILOMETERS
YUKON TERRITORY
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
British Columbia
Alaska Hwy
Pleasant Camp
Township of Atlin
Lower Post
Smith River
Fireside
Coal River
Liard River
Nelson Forks
Snake River
Muncho Lake
Toad River
Town of Fort Nelson
Steamboat
Magnum Mine
Kahntah
Fontas
Prophet River
Tulsequah
Dease Lake
Boulder City
Telegraph Creek
Skeena-Stikine
Hyland Post
Northland
ALBERTA
Mason Creek
Prespatou
City of Fort St. John
Cecil Lake
See Inset Map
Bear Lake
Hudson's Hope
Sunrise Valley
Chetwynd
Old Hogem
Manson Creek
Mackenzie
Tumbler Ridge
Peace River
37A
City of Terrace
Bulkley-Nechako
Fraser-Fort George
Village of Vanderhoof
Prince George
16
Cariboo-Chilcotin
26
97
Inset
Cecil Lake Rd
W Bypass
City of Fort St. John
100th Ave
Peace River
Northland
Old Fort Rd
Peace River
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

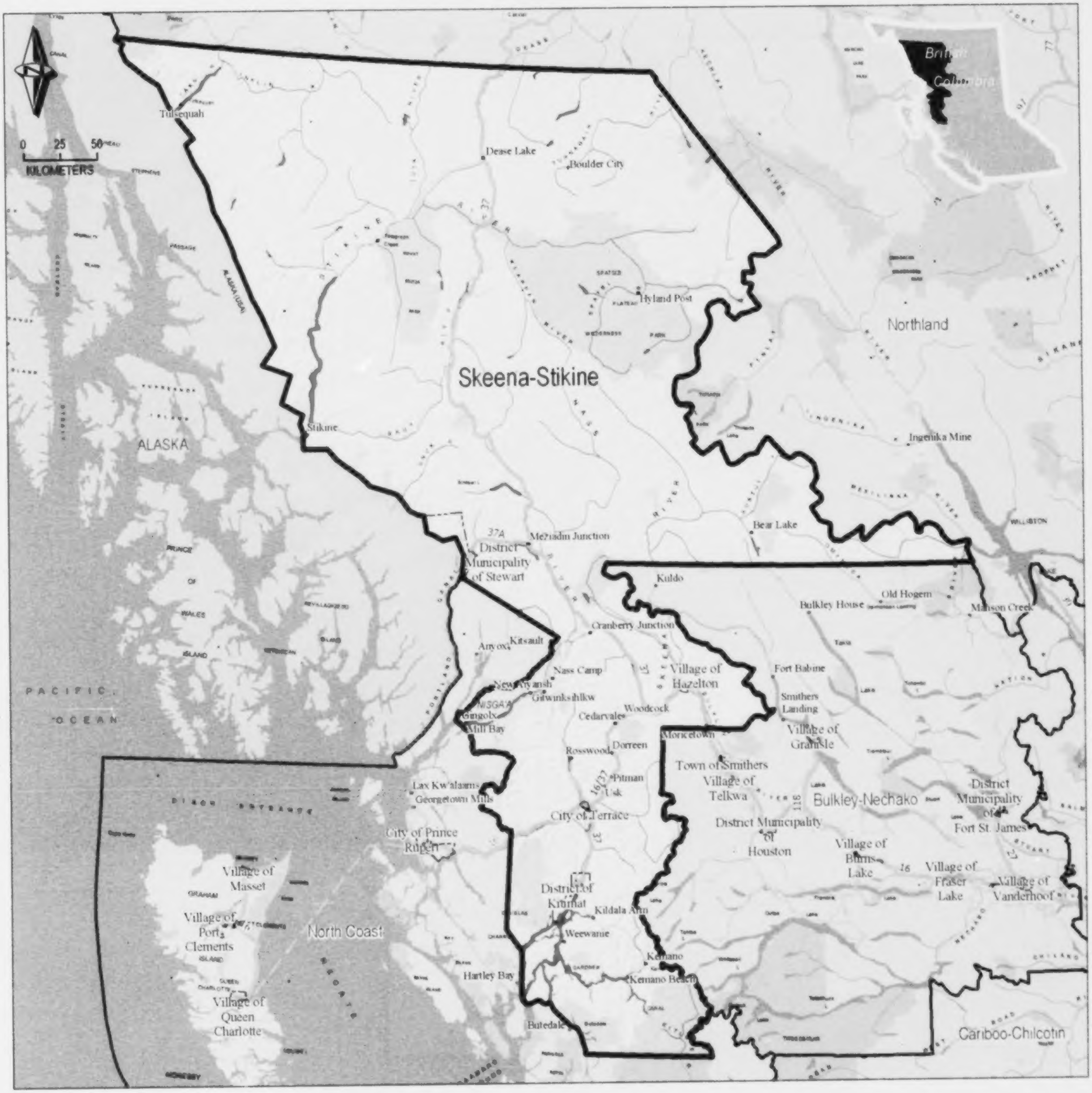
Region: The North – Proposed Prince George Electoral District


N
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
British Columbia
Aberdeen Rd
N Nechako Rd
Foothills Blvd
Hart Hwy
PG Pulp Mill Rd
N Tabor Blvd
N Ospika Blvd
1st Ave
5th Ave
Carney St
4th Ave
Fraser River
10th Ave
Foothills Blvd
S Tabor Blvd
S Ospika Blvd
Cariboo Hwy
Victoria St
City of Prince George
20th Ave
E Hwy 16
University Way
22nd Ave
Massey Dr
South Fort George
Fraser-Fort George
Prince George
Pinewood Ave
W Hwy 16
UNBC
Ferry Ave
Simon Fraser Bridge
Charella Garden
Davis Rd
Simon Fraser Ave
Tyner Blvd
Domano Blvd
College Heights
W Hwy 16
Vanway
Gladstone Dr
Pacific St
Cariboo Hwy
Parkridge Creek
Boundary Rd

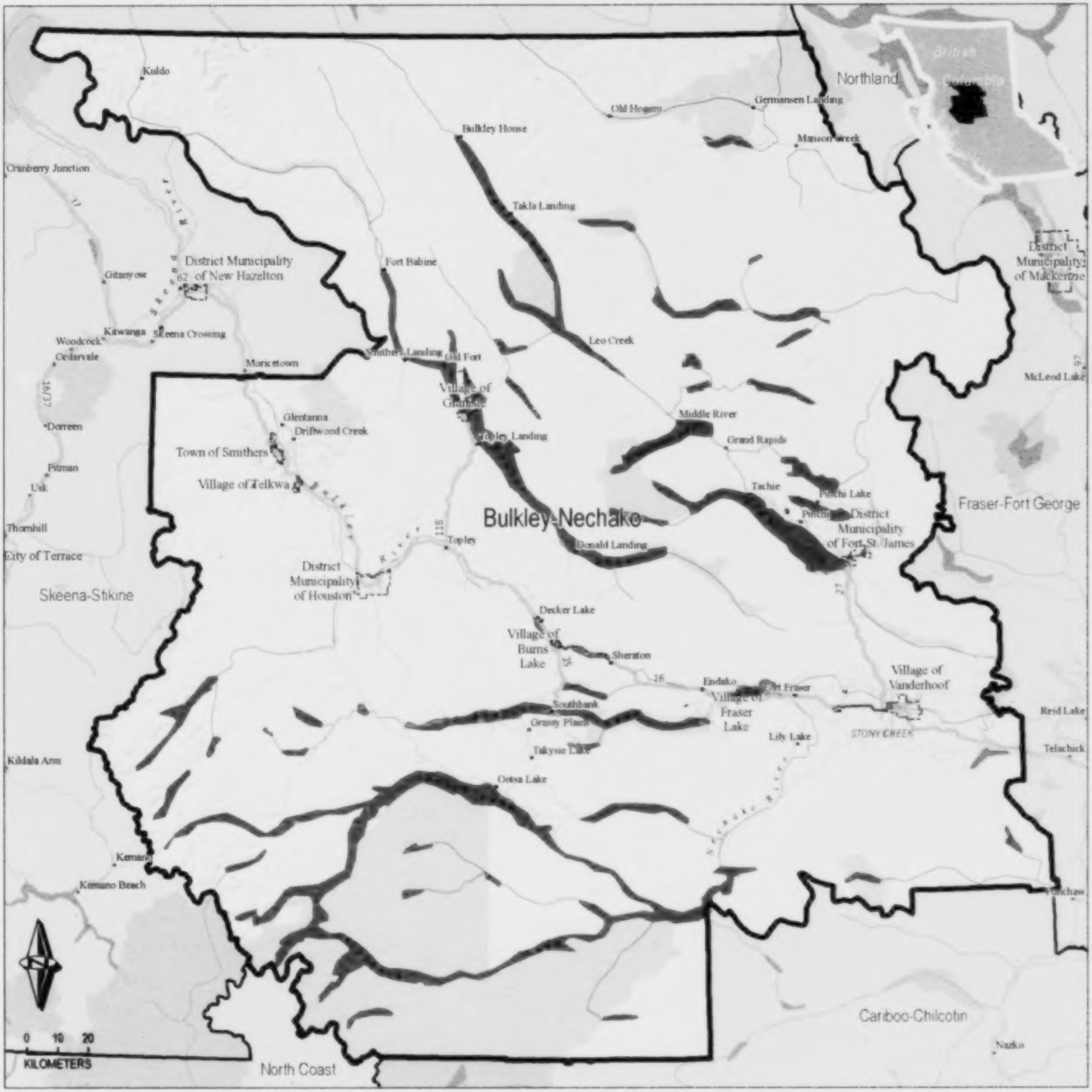
Region: The North – Proposed Fraser–Fort George Electoral District

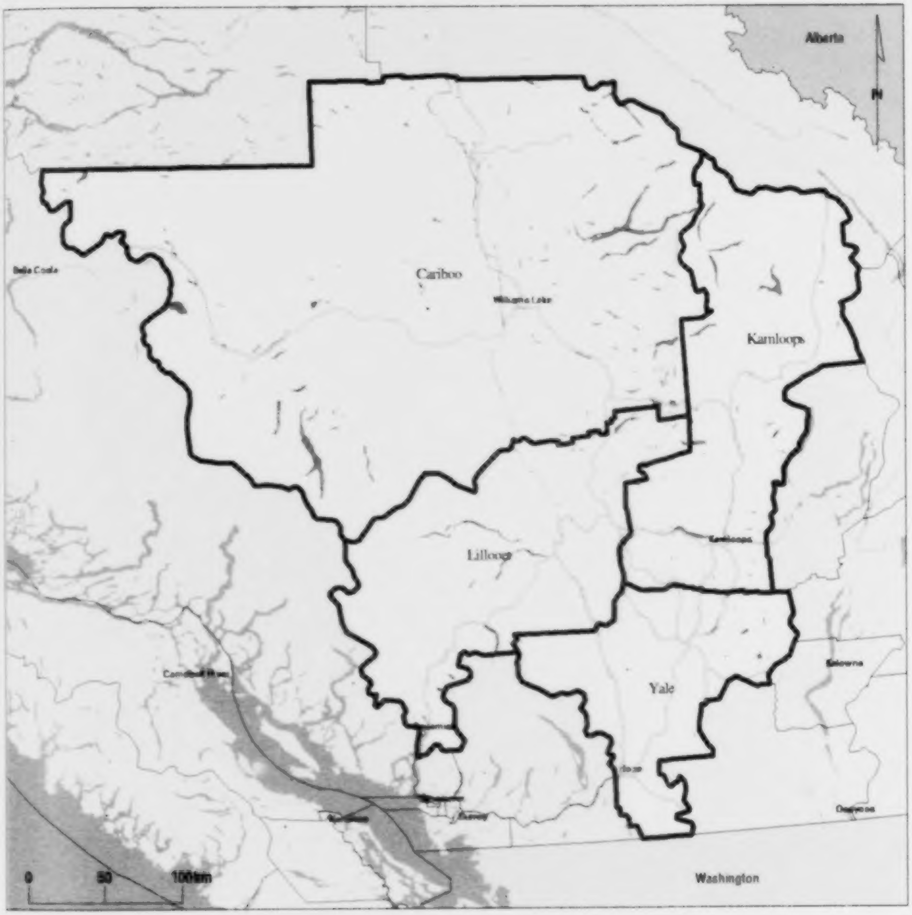

District Municipality of Hudson's Hope
Farrell Creek
Tower Lake
Valley View
Farmington
Willow Valley
Groundbirch
Progress
City of Dawson Creek
Moberly Lake
District Municipality of Chetwynd
East Pine
Northland
Hasler Flat
Lone Prairie
Upper Cutbank
Lemoray
District Municipality of Mackenzie
District Municipality of Tumbler Ridge
McLeod Lake
Anzac
Peace-River
ALBERTA
British Columbia
District Municipality of Fort St. James
Summit Lake
Fraser-Fort George
Newlands
McGregor
Sinclair Mills
Longworth
Nukko Lake
City of Prince George
Braeside
Village of Vanderhoof
Nechako River
Nulki
Mapes
Telachick
Prince George
Bulkley-Nechako
Fraser River
Crescent Spur
Red Rock
Baldy Hughes
Stoner
Woodpecker
Punchaw
Hixon
Anderson
Ahbau
Lamming Mills
Village of McBride
Eddy
Dunster
Croydon
Shere
Mount Robson
Red Pass
Tete Jaune Cache
Lucerne
Village of Valemount
Cedarside
Albreda
Blackwater
Cinema
District Municipality of Wells
Wells
Stanley
Ten Mile Lake
Wingdam
Cottonwood
City of Quesnel
Rich Bar
Baker Creek
Nazko
Kersley
Keithley Creek
Cariboo-Chilcotin
Narcosli Creek
Australian
Alexandria
Likely
Castle Rock
Marguerite
Macalister
Beaver Lake
Big Lake Ranch
Horsefly
Black Creek
McLeese Lake
Soda Creek
City of Williams Lake
Miocene
Kamloops-North Thompson
Kootenay-East
Blue River
Stillwater
Mica Creek
0
20
40
KILOMETERS

Region: The North – Proposed Skeena-Stikine Electoral District


British Columbia
0 25 50
KILOMETERS
Tulsequah
Dease Lake
Boulder City
Hyland Post
Skeena-Stikine
Northland
Ingenika Mine
ALASKA
Stikine
Bear Lake
37A
Meziadin Junction
District Municipality of Stewart
Kuldo
Old Hogem
Bulkley House
Manson Creek
Cranberry Junction
Anyox
Kitsault
Nass Camp
Village of Hazelton
Fort Babine
Smithers Landing
New Aiyansh
NISGA'A
Gitwinksihlkw
Gingolx
Mill Bay
Cedarvale
Woodcock
Moricetown
Village of Granisle
Rosswood
Dorreen
Town of Smithers
Village of Telkwa
Pitman
Usk
Bulkley-Nechako
District Municipality of Fort St. James
PACIFIC OCEAN
Lax Kw'alaams
Georgetown Mills
City of Terrace
City of Prince Rupert
District Municipality of Houston
Village of Burns Lake
Village of Fraser Lake
Village of Vanderhoof
Village of Masset
District of Kitimat
Kildala Arm
Village of Port Clements
North Coast
Weewanie
Kemano
Kemano Beach
Hartley Bay
Village of Queen Charlotte
Butedale
Cariboo-Chilcotin
16
37
16/37
118

Region: The North – Proposed Bulkley-Nechako Electoral District


British Columbia
Northland
Kuldo
Old Hogem
Germansen Landing
Manson Creek
Bulkley House
Cranberry Junction
Takla Landing
Skeena River
District Municipality of New Hazelton
62
Gitanyow
Fort Babine
District Municipality of Mackenzie
Kitwanga
Skeena Crossing
Woodcock
Cedarvale
Leo Creek
Smithers Landing
Old Fort
Moricetown
97
McLeod Lake
16/37
Village of Granisle
Glentanna
Driftwood Creek
Middle River
Dorreen
Topley Landing
Grand Rapids
Town of Smithers
Pitman
Usk
Village of Telkwa
Bulkley River
Tachie
Pinchi Lake
Pinchi
Fraser-Fort George
Thornhill
Bulkley-Nechako
District Municipality of Fort St. James
118
Topley
Donald Landing
City of Terrace
District Municipality of Houston
27
Skeena-Stikine
Decker Lake
Village of Burns Lake
35
Sheraton
16
Endako
Fort Fraser
Village of Vanderhoof
Village of Fraser Lake
Southbank
Reid Lake
Grassy Plains
Lily Lake
STONY CREEK
Takysie Lake
Telachick
Kildala Arm
Ootsa Lake
Nechako River
Kemano
Kemano Beach
Punchaw
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Cariboo-Chilcotin
Nazko
North Coast


Alberta
N
Bella Coola
Cariboo
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Kamloops
Lillooet
Yale
Kelowna
Campbell River
Osoyoos
Washington
0
50
100km

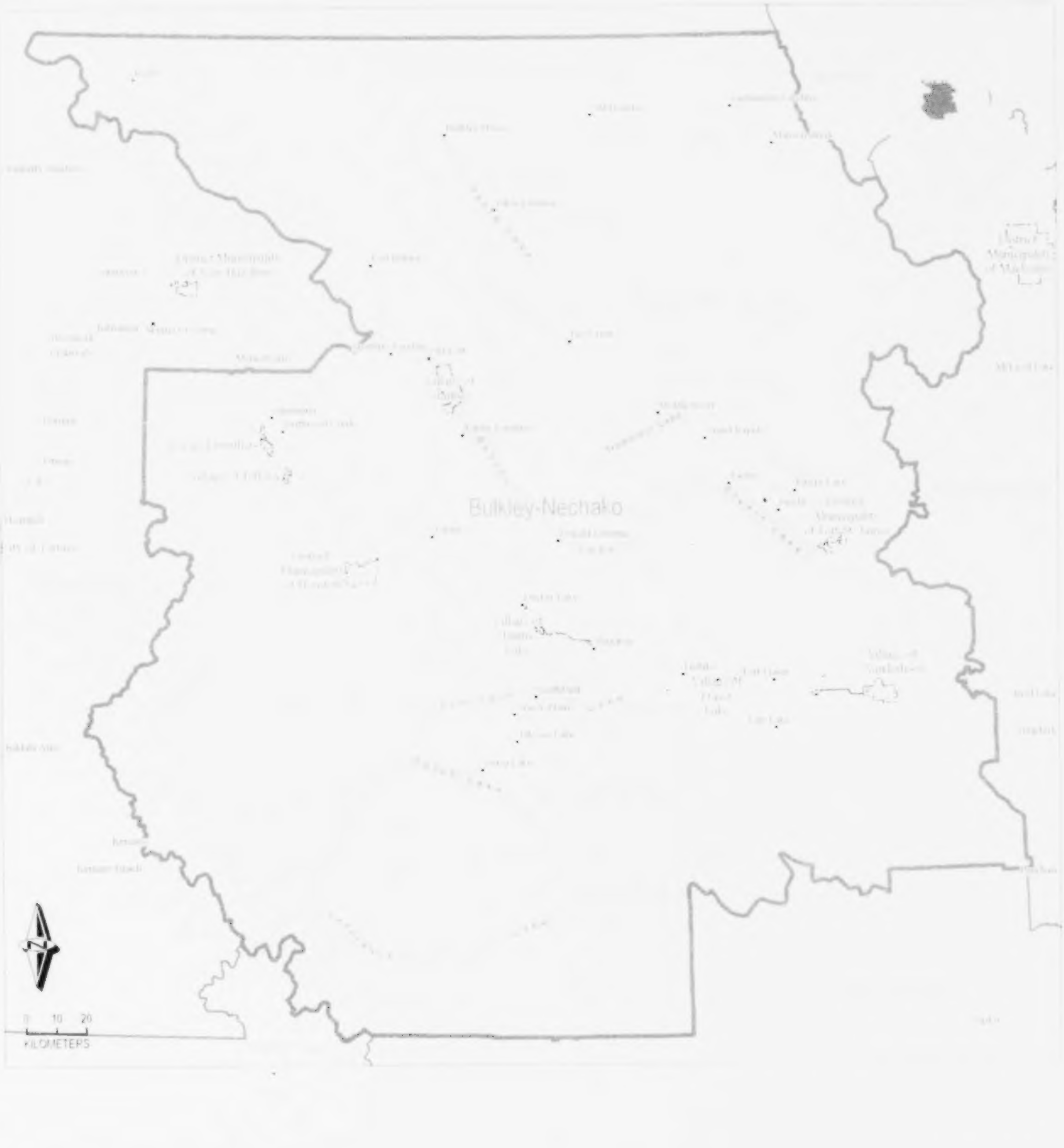
Cariboo, Map 1

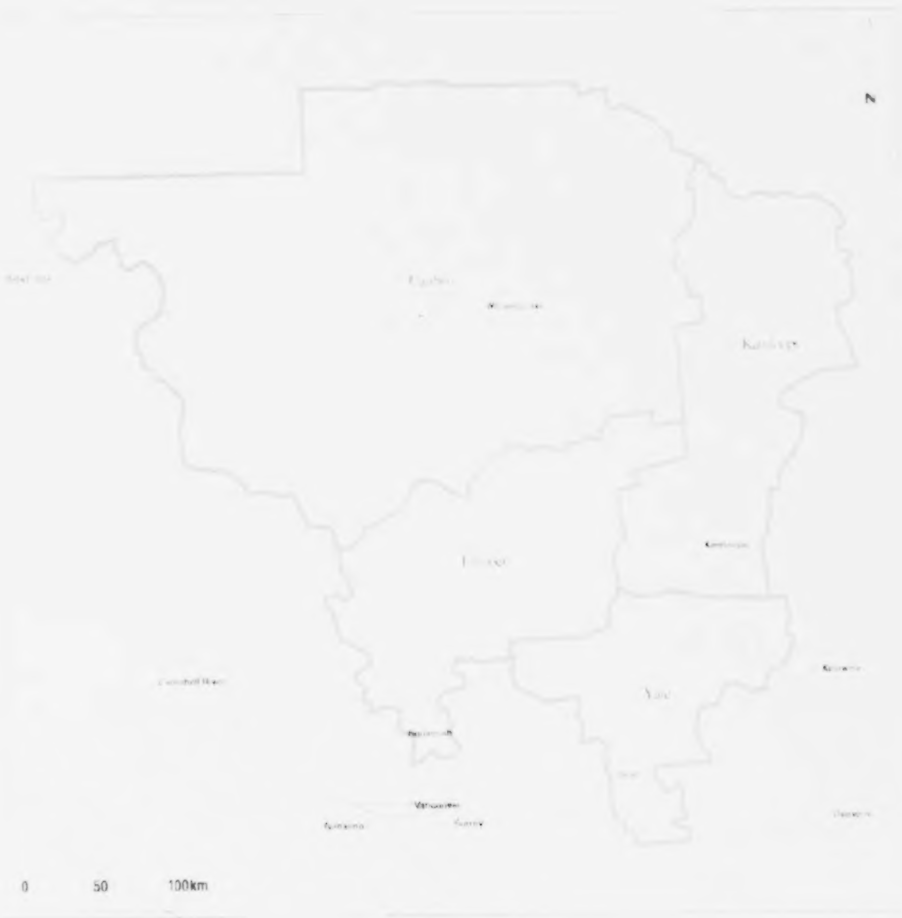
D. The Cariboo-Thompson

1. The evolution of the Cariboo-Thompson electoral districts

Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, there were four electoral districts in the geographical area that we describe as the Cariboo-Thompson: Cariboo, Lillooet, Yale and Kamloops (see Cariboo, Map 1).

Region: The North – Proposed Bulkley-Nechako Electoral District


Bulkley-Nechako
District Municipality of Mackenzie
District Municipality of Fort St. James
Village of Fraser Lake
Village of Burns Lake
District Municipality of Houston
0 10 20
KILOMETERS


N
Cariboo
Kamloops
Lillooet
Yale
Campbell River
Vancouver
Surrey
Nanaimo
0
50
100km

Cariboo, Map 1

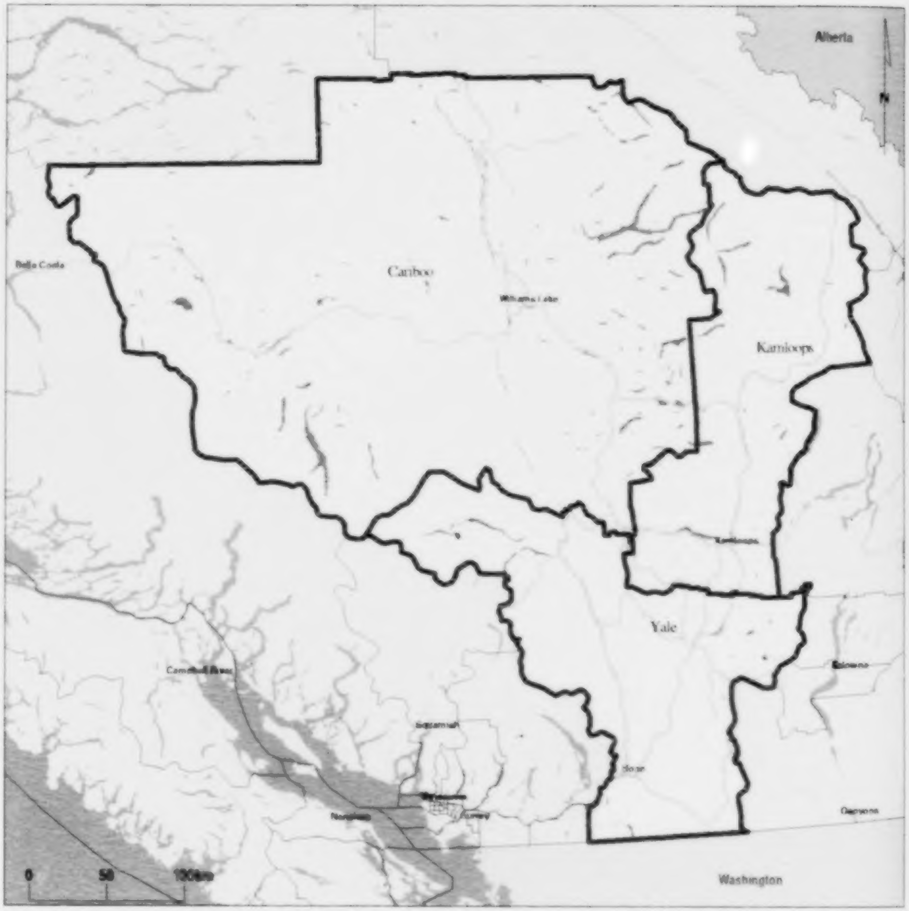
10. The Cariboo-Thompson

Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, there were four electoral districts in the geographical area that we describe as the Cariboo-Thompson: Cariboo, Lillooet, Yale and Kamloops (see Cariboo, Map 1).

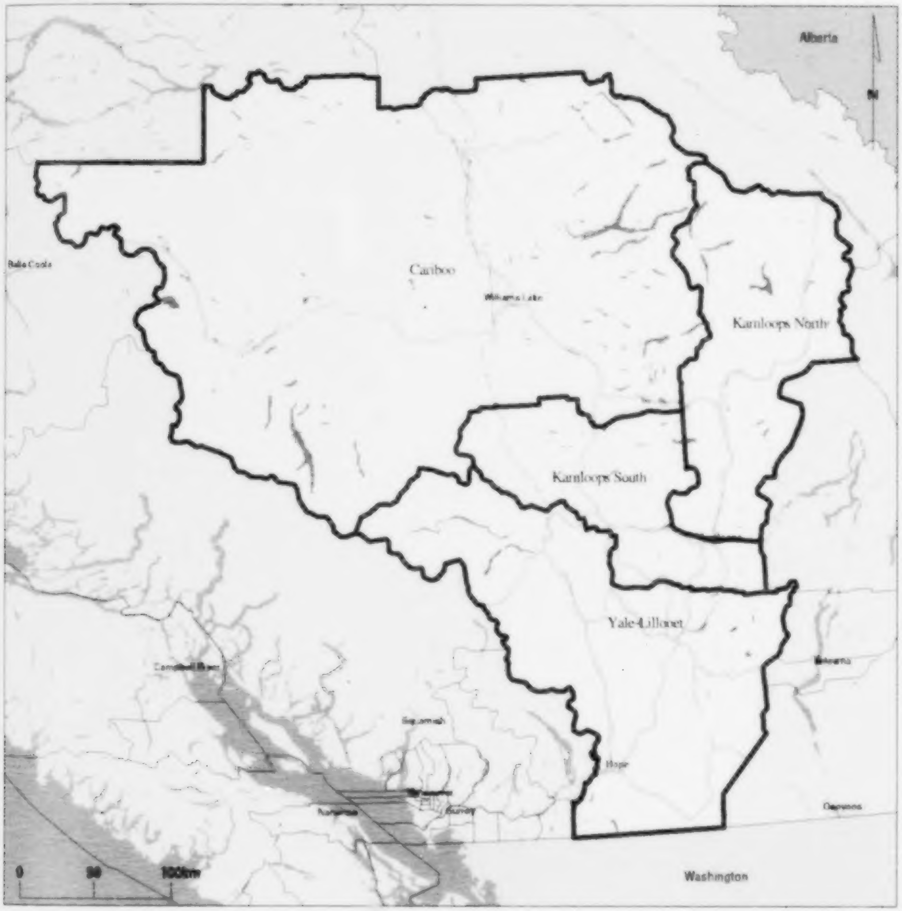
a. The Angus Commission (1966)

The Angus Commission concluded that "the proper and effective representation of the people of this region," which it called the West Central Region, required only three members. It recommended that the electoral district of Lillooet be eliminated, that Cariboo be expanded farther south to include Clinton, and that Yale be expanded north to include Lillooet and be expanded west to include several areas of the eastern Fraser Valley (see Cariboo, Map 2). The commission recognized that the new Yale electoral district would comprise many diverse interests and would impose a heavy burden on its MLA. It was seen as a temporary expedient to which there was no practical alternative.

The Legislative Assembly accepted these recommendations, but changed the name of Yale to Yale-Lillooet.


Alberta
N
Bella Coola
Cariboo
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Kamloops
Yale
Kelowna
Campbell River
Squamish
Hope
Vancouver
Nanaimo
Surrey
Osoyoos
0
50
100km
Washington

Cariboo, Map 2


Alberta
N
Bella Coola
Cariboo
Williams Lake
Kamloops North
Kamloops South
Yale-Lillooet
Campbell River
Squamish
Vancouver
Nanaimo
Surrey
Hope
Kelowna
Osoyoos
Washington
0
50
100km

Cariboo, Map 3

b. The Norris Commission (1975)
The Norris Commission recommended that an extra seat be added, because of the rapid growth in the Kamloops area. Kamloops would be divided into Kamloops North and Kamloops South, with the latter extending farther west to include Clinton and 70 Mile House (see Cariboo, Map 3).

The Legislative Assembly did not implement any of the Norris Commission's recommendations.

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)

The Eckardt Commission recommended that the three Cariboo-Thompson electoral districts established in 1966 (Cariboo, Yale-Lillooet and Kamloops) be retained (see Cariboo, Map 4). It concluded that a return to the historic electoral district of Lillooet could not be logically justified. It recommended that Cache Creek, Ashcroft and Logan Lake be transferred from Cariboo to Yale-Lillooet and that all of Kamloops be kept within one electoral district, despite its growing population.

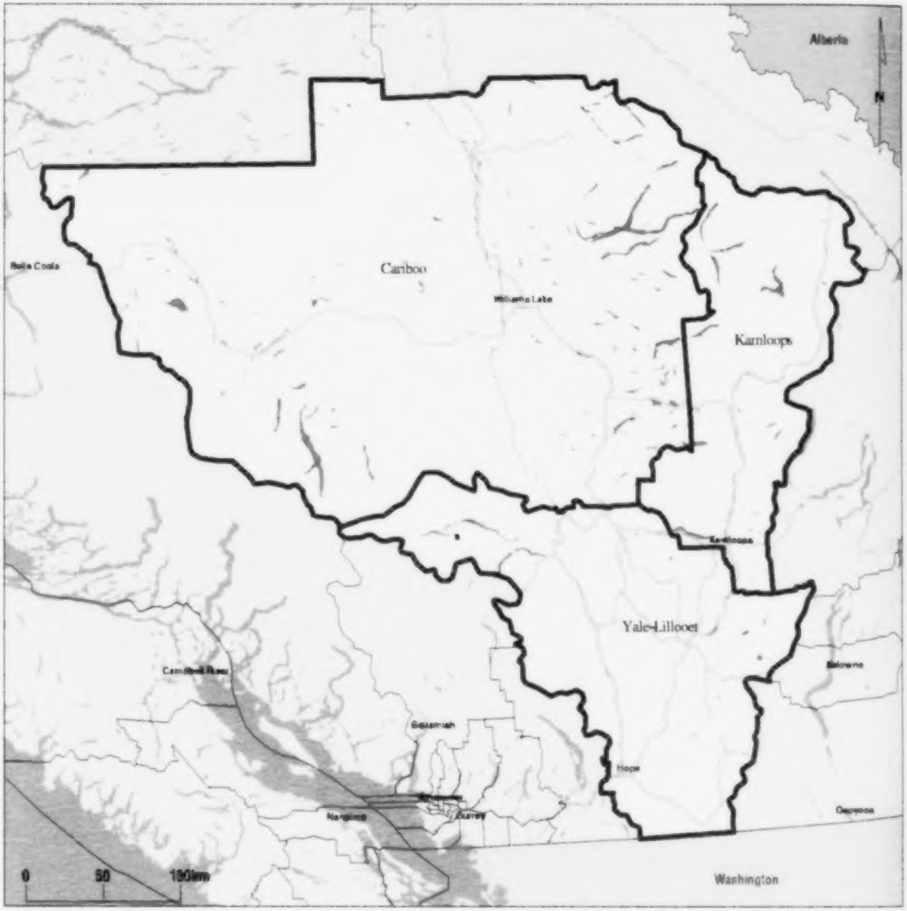
The Legislative Assembly implemented the Eckardt Commission's recommendations.

d. The Warren Commission (1982)

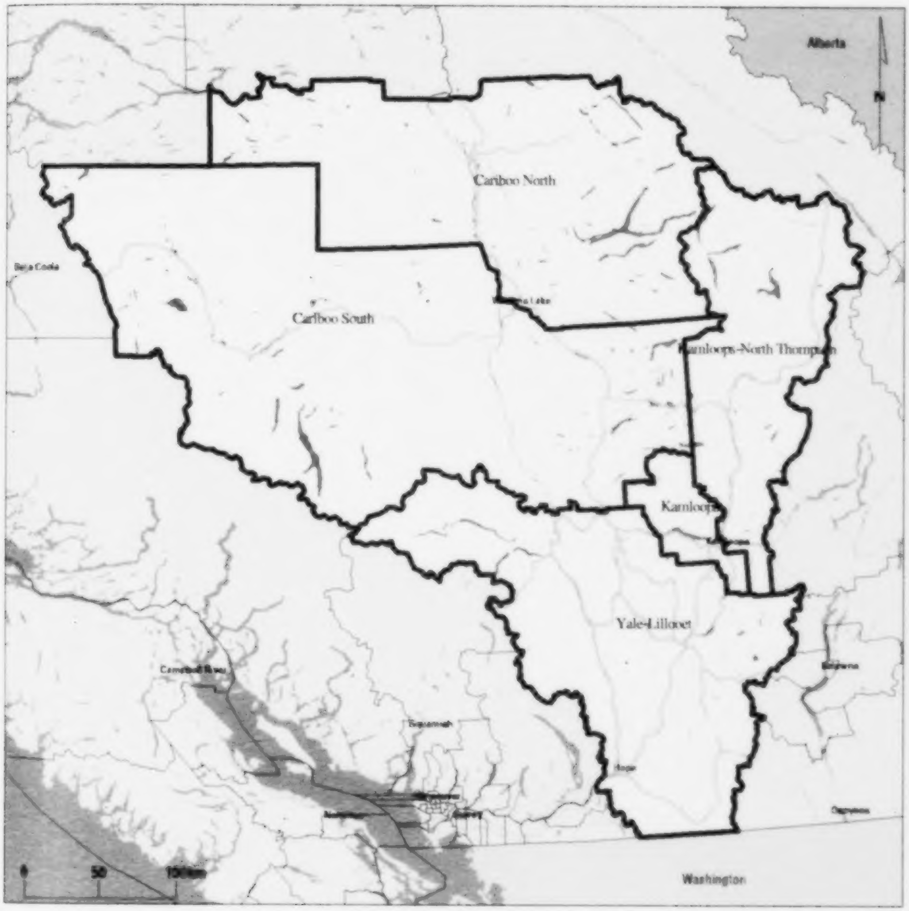
Mr. Warren declined to redraw electoral boundaries generally, but did recommend that a second MLA be added to seven existing electoral districts, including Cariboo and Kamloops. The Legislative Assembly did not accept these recommendations.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)

The legislation under which the McAdam Commission operated required that it recommend a second MLA for those electoral districts whose populations were more than 60 percent above the electoral district base calculated according to the *Constitutional Amendment Act, 1984*. Eleven electoral districts qualified, including Cariboo and Kamloops.


Alberta
N
Bella Coola
Cariboo
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Kamloops
Yale-Lillooet
Campbell River
Kelowna
Squamish
Hope
Nanaimo
Surrey
Osoyoos
0
50
100km
Washington

Cariboo, Map 4


Alberta
N
Cariboo North
Bella Coola
Cariboo South
Kamloops-North Thompson
Kamloops
Yale-Lillooet
Campbell River
Squamish
Hope
Washington
0
50
100km

Cariboo, Map 5

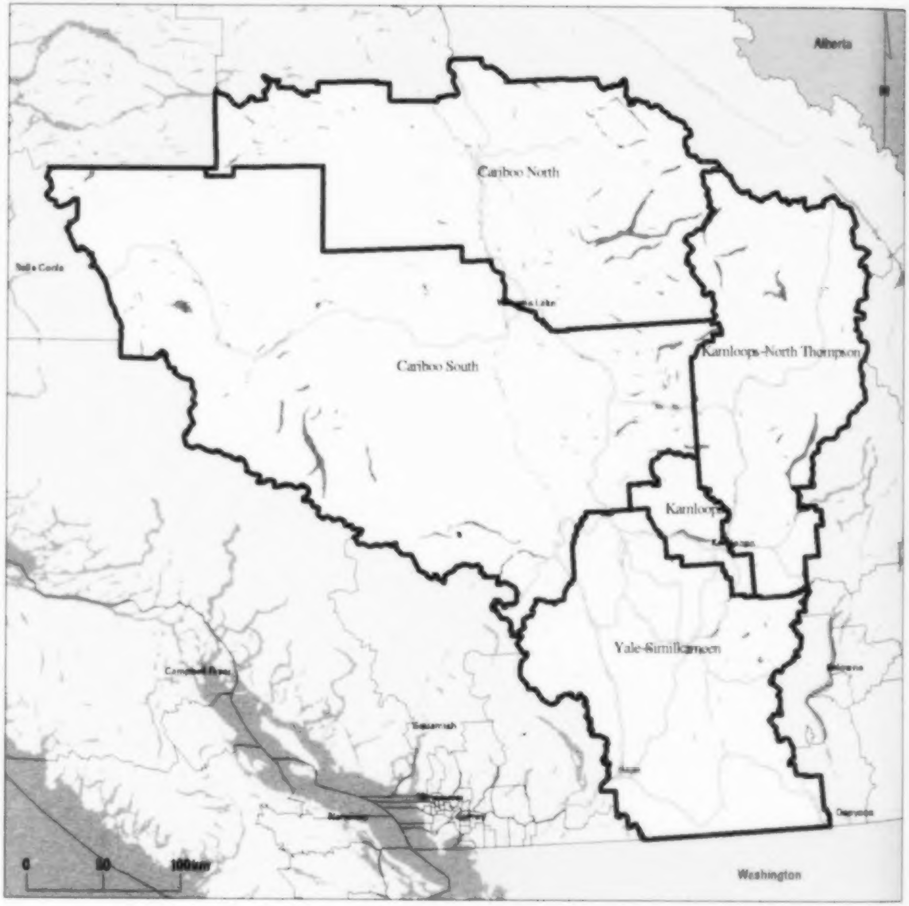
In 1985, the Legislative Assembly implemented these recommendations, giving the Cariboo-Thompson region five MLAs: Cariboo (2), Kamloops (2) and Yale-Lillooet.

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
In order to address his mandate of eliminating dual-member ridings, Judge Fisher created five electoral districts. He achieved this by dividing Cariboo into two electoral districts (which he initially named Cariboo-Quesnel and Cariboo–Williams Lake), and by dividing Kamloops into two electoral districts (which he named Kamloops and Kamloops–North Thompson). Kamloops would contain the most densely populated areas of the city on both sides of the Thompson River, including Brocklehurst, while the more sparsely populated suburban areas of the city would be included in Kamloops–North Thompson.

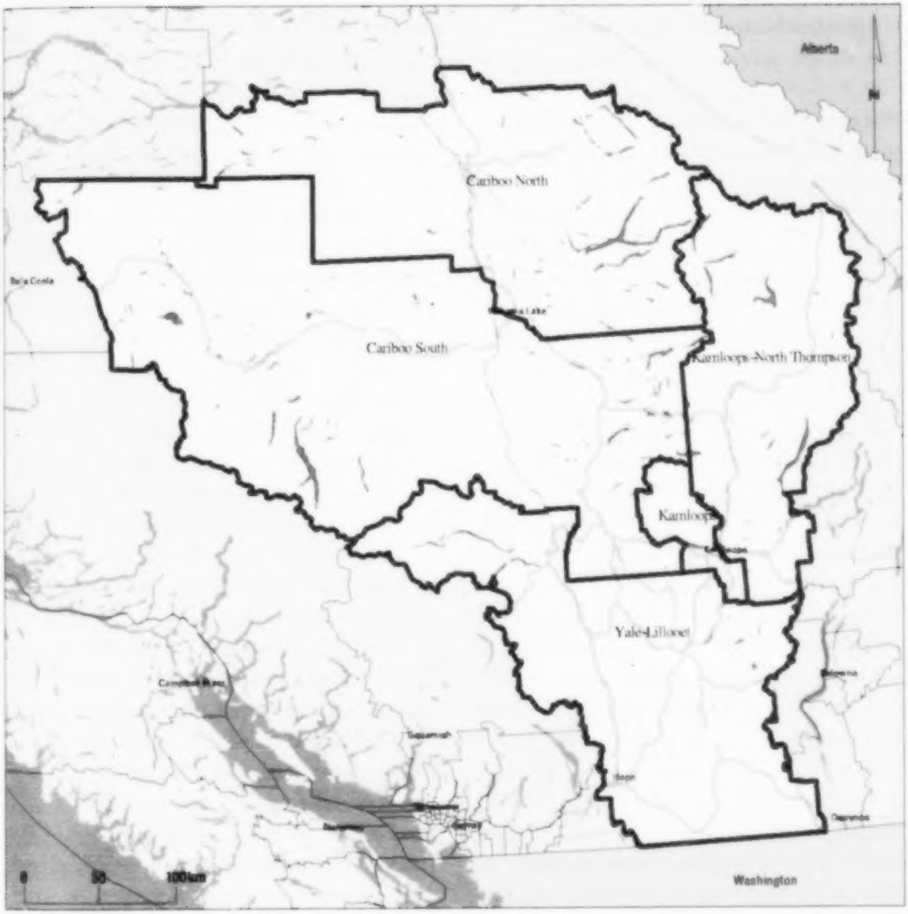
In his final report, Judge Fisher recommended that his two proposed Cariboo electoral districts be named Cariboo North and Cariboo South. In 1990 the Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Fisher's recommendations (see Cariboo, Map 5).

g. The Wood Commission (1999)

Cariboo North and Cariboo South now had deviations of minus 29 percent and minus 24.7 percent, respectively. In its interim report, the commission concluded that the combined population would be too large for one electoral district, and that the preservation of two electoral districts was consistent with the commission's overall objective of preserving regional representation. To bring both electoral districts within the statutory limit of minus 25 percent, the commission made several controversial boundary adjustments: it removed Lillooet from Yale-Lillooet, and included it in Cariboo South, and it divided Williams Lake between both electoral districts (see Cariboo, Map 6). The commission also made technical adjustments to the two Kamloops electoral districts, and removed Keremeos from Boundary-Similkameen and included it in Yale-Lillooet in response to a submission from the council of the Village of Keremeos indicating that people in that area had connections with the community of Princeton, farther west.



Cariboo, Map 6


Alberta
N
Cariboo North
Bella Coola
Williams Lake
Cariboo South
Kamloops-North Thompson
Kamloops
Yale-Lillooet
Campbell River
Squamish
Nanaimo
Surrey
Hope
Osoyoos
Washington
0
50
100km

Cariboo, Map 7

In its final report, the commission recognized that Williams Lake residents were not happy to have their city divided among two electoral districts, but no one suggested an alternative that would have kept both Cariboo electoral districts within the minus 25 percent deviation limit. The commission did recommend several changes to its initial proposals (see Cariboo, Map 7): Lillooet should be returned to Yale-Lillooet (in recognition that any connection to the Cariboo was a purely historical one without any modern-day relevance), and Cache Creek, Ashcroft and Savona should become part of Cariboo South (to bolster its population). These changes brought all five electoral districts within the minus 25 percent statutory limit.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

2. *Our analysis of the Cariboo-Thompson electoral districts*

The geographical area we describe as the Cariboo-Thompson region currently has five electoral districts: Cariboo North, Cariboo South, Yale-Lillooet, Kamloops and Kamloops–North Thompson. These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 9):

TABLE 9: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN CARIBOO-THOMPSON

Electoral District	1996 deviation*	2006 deviation**
Cariboo North	-20.4%	-34.2%
Cariboo South	-22.7%	-32.8%
Yale-Lillooet	-18.8%	-28%
Kamloops	+2.5%	-0.9%
Kamloops–North Thompson	+1.2%	-6%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

If we were to create electoral districts in the Cariboo-Thompson so that the population of each district approximated the provincial electoral quotient, there would be only four electoral districts. Given the principle that underlies the constitutional and legal framework within which we operate, our overriding obligation is to strive for relative population parity among individual electoral districts, and to deviate from the provincial electoral quotient only to the extent necessary to ensure effective representation. We do not think it appropriate, as discussed in detail earlier in this part of the report (see "The North"), for us to begin our boundary-setting task with a presumption that regional representation should be preserved.

The Cariboo-Thompson is the province's second-largest geographical area, after the North. The South Thompson River (originating in the Shuswap) and the North Thompson River (beginning in the Rockies) meet in Kamloops and flow westward, merging with the Fraser River at Lytton and tumbling southward through the Fraser Canyon to Hope.

This region is disparate – to the north, the Cariboo; to the west, the Chilcotin; to the south, the Southern Interior, Fraser Canyon and the Similkameen; and to the northeast, the two Thompson River valleys. It is, some would contend, stretching things to call this diverse area one region. Our Cariboo-Thompson region is, admittedly, a region of convenience, bringing together areas that do not fit naturally within the surrounding regions of the Fraser Valley, the North and the Okanagan. Indeed, it was argued persuasively during our public consultation that:

- Hope should be included in an electoral district with eastern Fraser Valley communities;
- all of Keremeos' links (economic, trade, health, education, etc.) are with the southern Okanagan; and,
- economic initiatives are being developed cooperatively between Princeton and Keremeos, such that those two communities should be in the same electoral district.

Within the Cariboo-Thompson region itself, we heard objections to several perceived anomalies. Splitting Williams Lake was not popular when it was done in 1999, and constituents told us that they still do not like it. On the other hand, some said that, if splitting the town is necessary to preserve two Cariboo electoral districts, they will happily pay the price. Residents of Cache Creek and Ashcroft were not happy at having been included in Cariboo South (from Yale-Lillooet) without consultation – they first heard about it after publication of the Wood Commission's final report. Similarly, we heard objections from people living west of Kamloops (in communities such as Savona and the new Tobiano development) who have to travel all the way to Williams Lake to meet with their Cariboo South MLA, when they are almost within sight of Kamloops.

We began our boundary-setting exercise by exploring whether we could simply rebalance population among the current five electoral districts. We found that it would result in all five electoral districts having deviations of minus 20.4 percent with 79 electoral districts and minus 14.3 percent with 85; in either case a significant negative deviation, even though within the statutory limit. In any event, that theoretical solution soon bumped into practical realities – it would not work on the ground to create perfectly balanced electoral districts, for several reasons.

First, it would require dividing Kamloops among three electoral districts. With a population of 80,376 it must be divided between two electoral districts, but for several reasons we were not attracted to the idea of using Kamloops as the anchor for three electoral districts any more than we were in the case of Prince George. As a large and growing regional centre, Kamloops has economic development, housing and social issues quite different from the issues facing smaller communities such as Cache Creek and Blue River. Smaller towns do not want to be "swallowed up" by Kamloops. Where possible, we tried to accommodate concerns that were expressed about mixing urban and rural communities.

Second, Yale-Lillooet would have to extend eastward, including southern Kamloops neighbourhoods, as well as Highway 97 communities such as Falkland and Westwold.

Third, Cariboo South would have to extend farther south, to include communities such as Lillooet, Lytton, Shalath and Seton Portage. During the 1999 Wood Commission, Lillooet had voiced strong opposition to being included in South Cariboo and we should, if possible, respect that preference.

Fourth, although all of Williams Lake would now be in one electoral district (Cariboo South), communities to the west along Highway 20 (e.g., Alexis Creek and Anahim Lake) and communities to the east (e.g., Likely and Horsefly) that see Williams Lake as their main commercial centre would be in Cariboo North, in violation of longstanding community interests.

Finally, it would be difficult to justify significant negative deviations for the three Kamloops-based electoral districts, since about two-thirds of each electoral district's population would be urban. But giving each of these three electoral districts a more modest deviation (e.g., minus 7 percent) would have the effect of driving the remaining two Cariboo electoral districts substantially outside the statutory limit, with deviations averaging between minus 41 percent with 79 electoral districts and minus 35.9 percent with 85, which we concluded are not justified.

Because of these practical realities, we decided that a significant reconfiguration of the electoral districts of the Cariboo-Thompson was required. We began by articulating several considerations that should guide our work, including the following:

- Kamloops, being too large for one electoral district, must be divided between two electoral districts. However, for the reasons set out above, we do not believe it should be split among three. We are persuaded that it is in the best interests of the constituents of this region if the residents of Kamloops, and people living along the North Thompson River and to the west of Kamloops, be distributed between two urban-suburban-rural electoral districts.

We agree with the submissions received that:

- Keremeos has many attributes of a southern Similkameen, south Okanagan community with very little community interest

with other Yale-Lillooet communities, and should be included in an Okanagan-based electoral district.
- Princeton has many tangible economic and trade connections with Keremeos, and they should be in the same electoral district.
- Hope has much more compelling community ties to the eastern Fraser Valley than it does to other Yale-Lillooet communities.
- Williams Lake (pop. 10,744) should not be divided between two electoral districts.
- Rural communities to the east of Williams Lake (e.g., Horsefly and Likely) and those to the west (e.g., Alexis Creek and Anahim Lake) see Williams Lake as their principal commercial centre, and should be in the same electoral district as Williams Lake.
- Yale-Lillooet is an electoral district of small communities (e.g., Keremeos, Princeton, Hope, Merritt, Logan Lake, Lytton and Lillooet); these communities should remain in "rural" ridings.

With those considerations in mind, we began our boundary-setting task in Kamloops. It is currently divided into the two electoral districts of Kamloops and Kamloops–North Thompson, with a dividing line running north-south through the city along Sixth Avenue and Peterson Creek. We considered creating an urban electoral district wholly within the City of Kamloops, and a second district that would include the remainder of Kamloops (about 29,600 people) plus the North Thompson River communities north to Blue River and the more southerly communities between Chase and Cache Creek. The Kamloops–North Thompson electoral district works well in its present configuration, and we are proposing that it retain its current boundaries, except for one change within the City of Kamloops – in our view, the South Thompson and Thompson Rivers serve as a more practical, natural boundary between the two Kamloops-based electoral districts.

The only significant boundary changes we recommend for the Kamloops–North Thompson electoral district (see map of proposed Kamloops–North Thompson electoral district page 110) are:
- to move its southern boundary northward to the South Thompson River; and,
- to extend it westward from the North Thompson River, picking up that part of the City of Kamloops that lies north of the Thompson River.

These changes will give Kamloops–North Thompson a deviation of minus 1.5 percent based on 81 electoral districts.

The other Kamloops district (which we propose be named Kamloops–South Thompson) would include all of the City of Kamloops south of the South Thompson and Thompson rivers. It would extend southward to Stump Lake and westward about halfway to Cache Creek. Communities along Kamloops Lake and the Thompson River, such as Savona, and the new Tobiano development, would be included. However, we do not propose that Cache Creek, Ashcroft or Logan Lake be included, for population-balancing reasons and because we were told that people from those communities would prefer being in a rural electoral district. This newly-configured district (see map of proposed Kamloops–South Thompson electoral district page 111) will have a deviation of plus 2 percent.

We then turned to the southern part of this region. We were told that Keremeos (as well as Cawston to the east and Olalla to the north) have much more in common with the South Okanagan than they do with the other Yale-Lillooet communities:
- Oliver and Penticton are much closer (50 km) than Merritt (150 kilometres).
- The area, with many cottage wineries, is a fruit- and grape-growing area, as is the Okanagan.
- These communities are partnering with Oliver in developing an organic farming institute.
- Tourism is tied to the Similkameen and the Okanagan.
- The communities are part of the

Okanagan–Similkameen Regional District.

Beginning with the 1966 Angus Commission, every independent electoral boundaries commission until 1999 had included Keremeos and nearby centres in an Okanagan-based electoral district. However, the Wood Commission felt compelled to include it with Yale-Lillooet, as the only available option of fulfilling its goal of preserving five electoral districts in this region.[59]

As discussed earlier (p. 44), we did not ground our boundary-setting task with a presumption of preserving regional representation. The compelling community interests referred to above have persuaded us that this area should be part of an Okanagan-based electoral district.

At the same time, we have decided that Hope should be included in an eastern Fraser Valley–based district which results in the population of Yale-Lillooet being reduced by 8,105 people. As discussed above, Hope's trade ties and community interests are directed to the west rather than to the north or east, and Hope and nearby Fraser Canyon communities are part of the Fraser Valley Regional District.

Having made those decisions respecting Keremeos and Hope, we moved our attention to the several communities along Highway 3 between Manning Park and Keremeos, such as Princeton and Hedley. We heard submissions indicating that they have more in common with Keremeos than they do with Yale-Lillooet communities to the north. Indeed, we were told of the growing economic interdependence between Princeton and Keremeos, and we were asked to place the two communities in the same electoral district. We agree, and propose that Princeton, Hedley and other Highway 3 communities east of the Fraser Valley Regional District (which are part of the Okanagan–Similkameen Regional District) be included in the same Okanagan-based electoral district. This decision resulted in an increase of 9,611 persons to an Okanagan based district and a reduction by the same number in Yale-Lillooet.

The remaining area of the Cariboo-Thompson region stretches from south of Hixon along the Cariboo Regional District boundary in the north to Merritt and Lytton in the south. With a population of 87,274, dividing it into three electoral districts would result in relatively compact districts with almost all the population living along, or close to, major highways, yet with deviations averaging minus 44.1 percent based on 79 electoral districts. If the number of districts were increased to 85, the average would be minus 39.9 percent. Such electoral districts would be smaller than and, in our view, more easily served by MLAs than the current Cariboo North, Cariboo South and Yale-Lillooet electoral districts, and they would bear none of the exceptional or extraordinary hallmarks of the proposed North Coast or Northland electoral districts. We have concluded that "very special circumstances" justifying those two electoral districts' deviations (such as the extremes of a large land mass, sparse population and transportation challenges) would not exist in such districts.

Consequently, we concluded that the remaining area could be effectively represented by two MLAs. But where should we draw the dividing line? Balancing the population would produce two electoral districts with 43,637 people in each, but that would require splitting Williams Lake, an unpalatable decision for people of that community and for us. Not dividing Williams Lake, and yet including with Williams Lake the communities westward along Highway 20 (e.g., Alexis Creek and Anahim Lake) and communities to the east (e.g., Likely and Horsefly), means that the northern electoral district will have significantly more people than will the southern district. On balance, we are persuaded that, in this case, community interests as noted above, should prevail over population parity, and that the City of Williams Lake should, in its entirety, be within the northern district, which we propose naming Cariboo-Chilcotin (see map of proposed Cariboo-Chilcotin electoral district page 112). It would have a deviation of minus 11.2 percent based on 81 electoral districts.

---

[59] See the 1999 Wood Commission's interim report, p. 59, and final report, p. 34.

The southern electoral district (which we propose be named Cariboo-Fraser) would begin south of Williams Lake, and include 100 Mile House, Clinton, Cache Creek, Ashcroft, Lillooet, Lytton, Logan Lake and Merritt. Apart from Merritt (pop. 6,998), it would have no population center greater than 3,000 (see map of proposed Cariboo-Fraser electoral district page 113). It would have a deviation of minus 17 percent, high but acceptable for such a diverse rural electoral district.

3. Conclusion

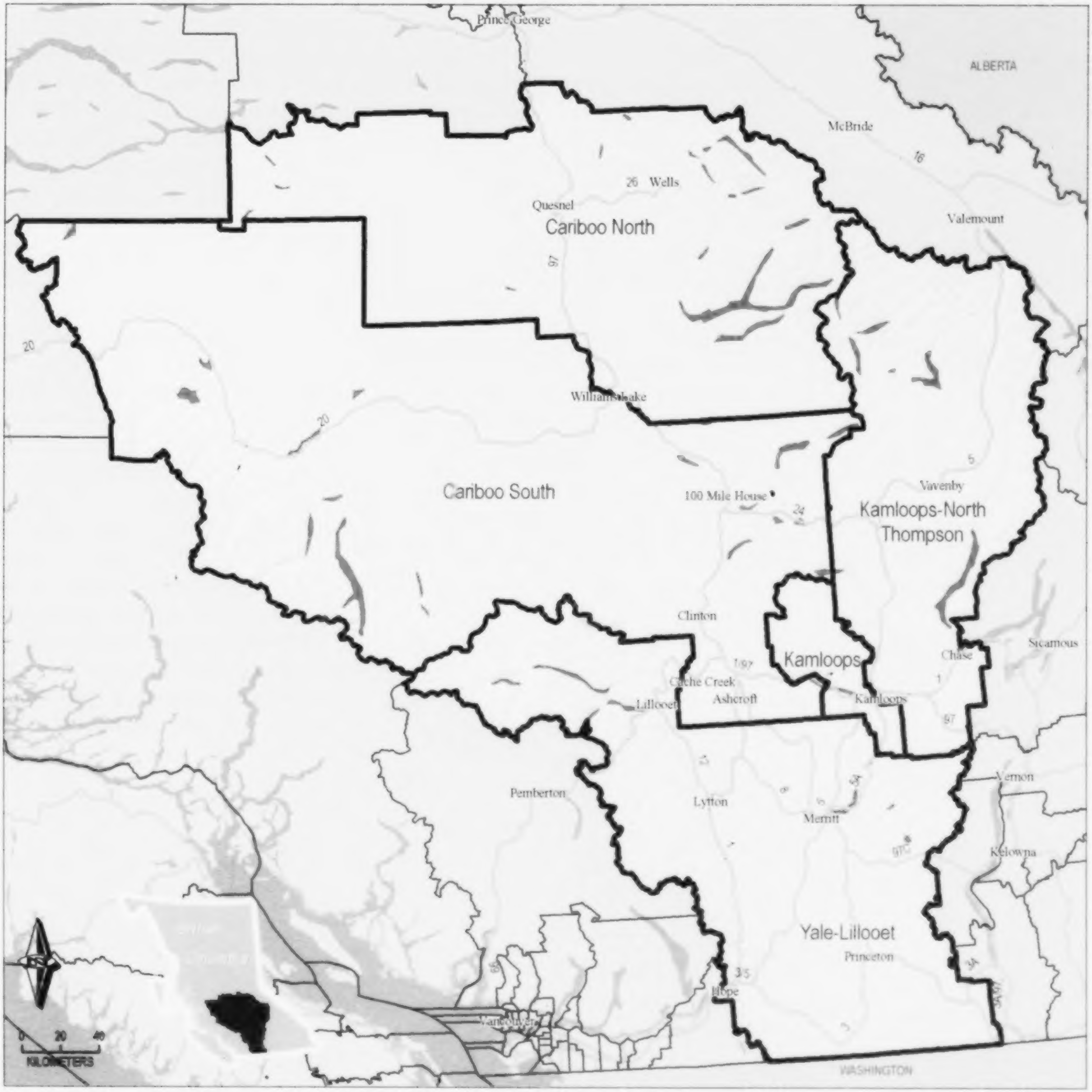
Accordingly, we propose that there be four electoral districts in the Cariboo-Thompson, as follows:

TABLE 10: PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN CARIBOO-THOMPSON

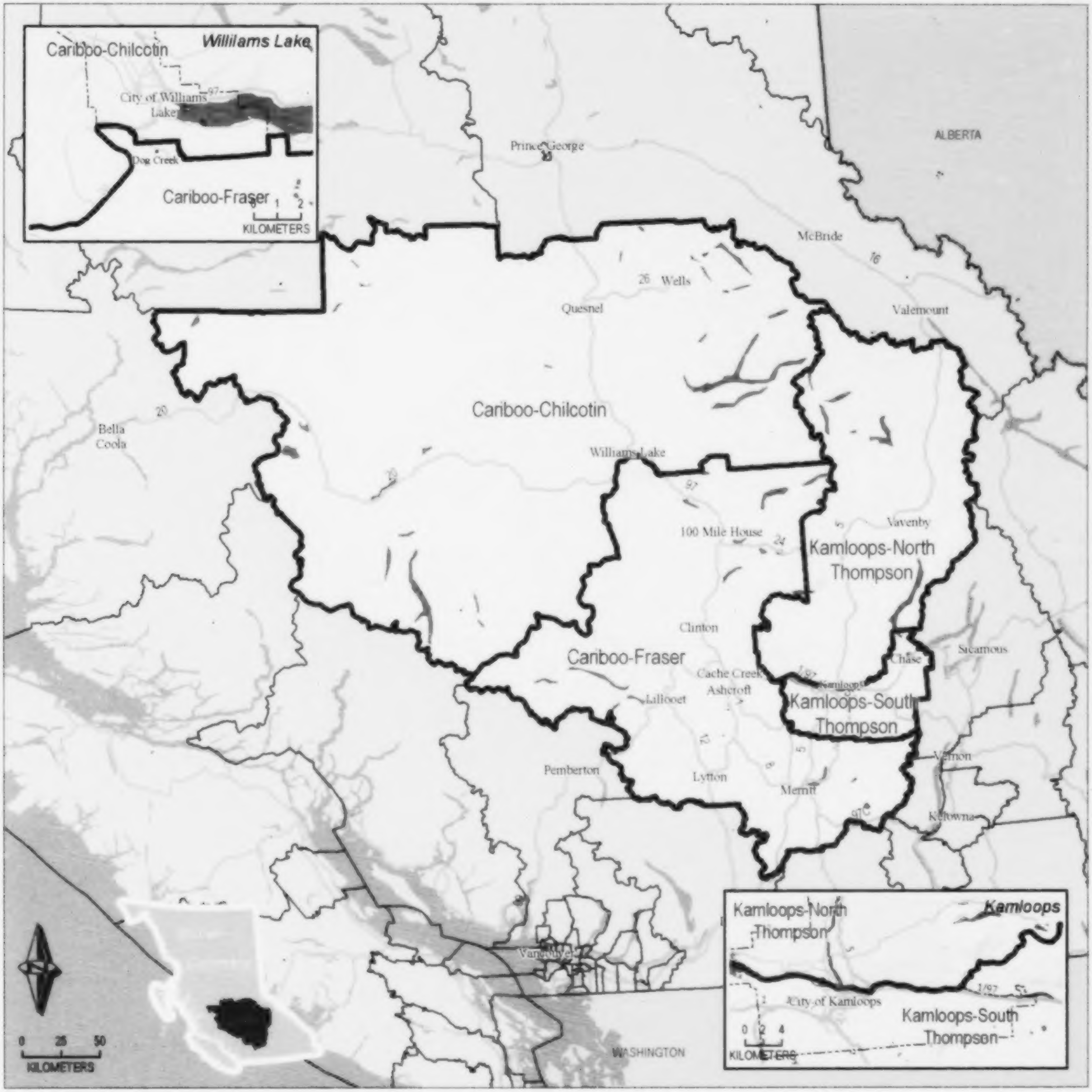
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Cariboo-Chilcotin	75,184	45,104	-11.2%
Cariboo-Fraser	35,477	42,170	-17%
Kamloops–South Thompson	3,854	51,812	+2%
Kamloops–North Thompson	21,694	50,042	-1.5%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

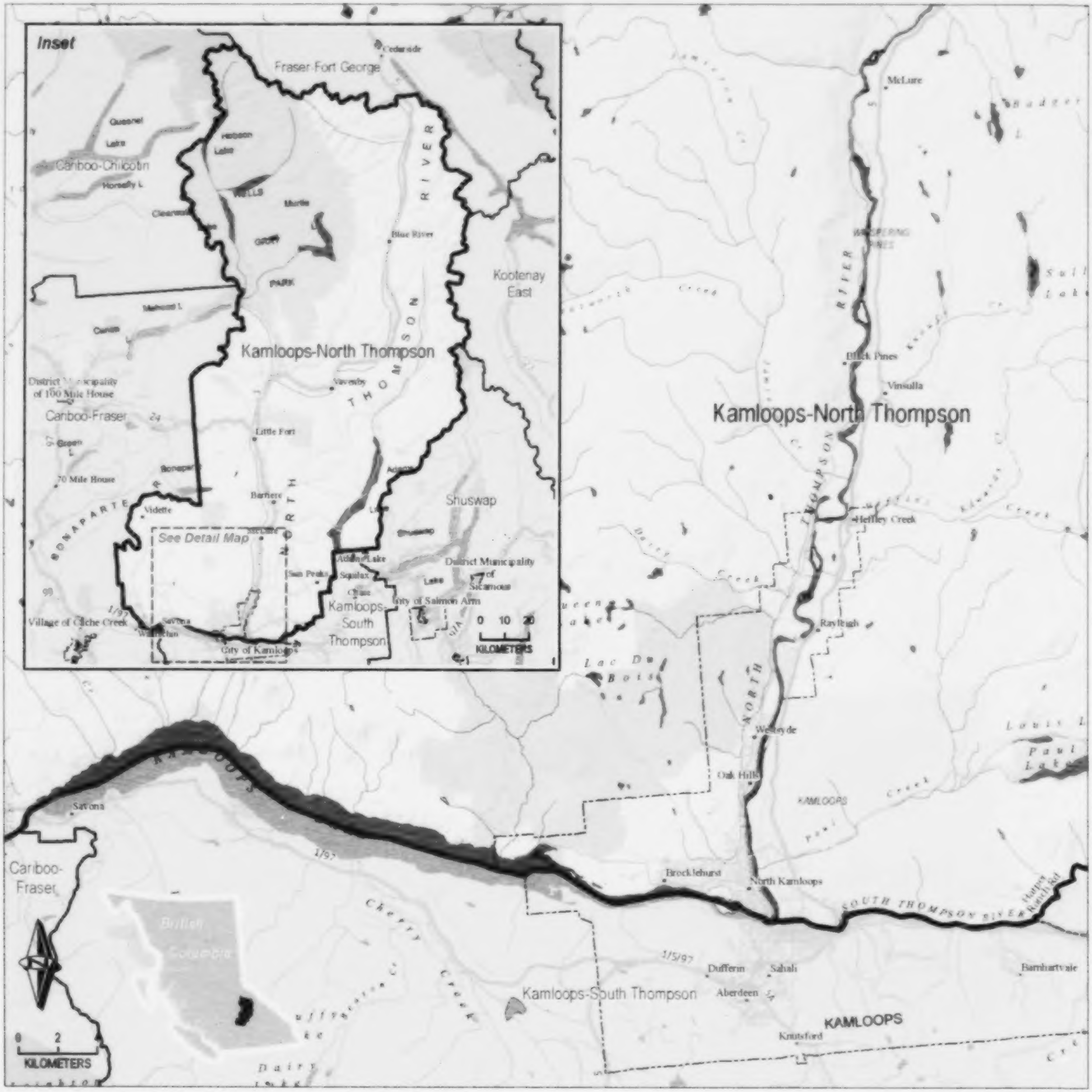
Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Current Electoral Districts


Prince George
ALBERTA
McBride
16
26
Wells
Quesnel
Cariboo North
97
Valemount
20
Williams Lake
20
Cariboo South
100 Mile House
24
5
Vavenby
Kamloops-North Thompson
Clinton
Sicamous
1/97
Kamloops
Chase
Cache Creek
Ashcroft
Lillooet
Kamloops
1
97
Vernon
Pemberton
Lytton
8
5
Merritt
97C
Kelowna
Yale-Lillooet
Princeton
99
3/5
Hope
Vancouver
3
97
0 20 40
KILOMETERS
WASHINGTON

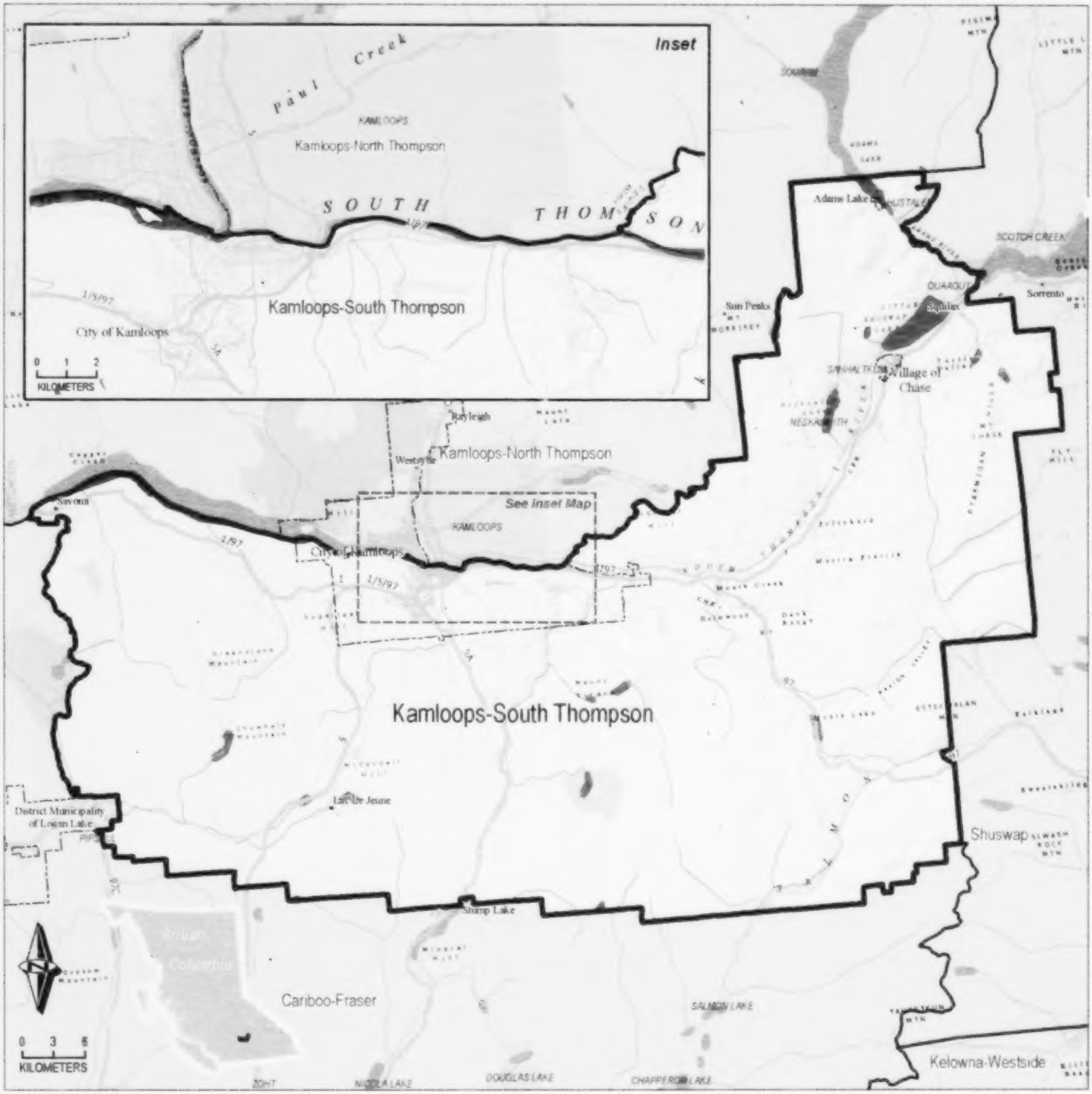
Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Electoral Districts


Cariboo-Chilcotin
Willilams Lake
City of Williams Lake
97
Dog Creek
Cariboo-Fraser
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
Prince George
ALBERTA
McBride
16
Valemount
26
Wells
Quesnel
Bella Coola
20
Cariboo-Chilcotin
Williams Lake
97
100 Mile House
24
Vavenby
Kamloops-North Thompson
Clinton
Cariboo-Fraser
Cache Creek
Ashcroft
Lillooet
Chase
Sicamous
Kamloops
1/97
Kamloops-South Thompson
Pemberton
Lytton
Merritt
5
8
12
Vernon
97C
Kelowna
Vancouver
WASHINGTON
0 25 50
KILOMETERS
Kamloops-North Thompson
Kamloops
City of Kamloops
1/97
Kamloops-South Thompson
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

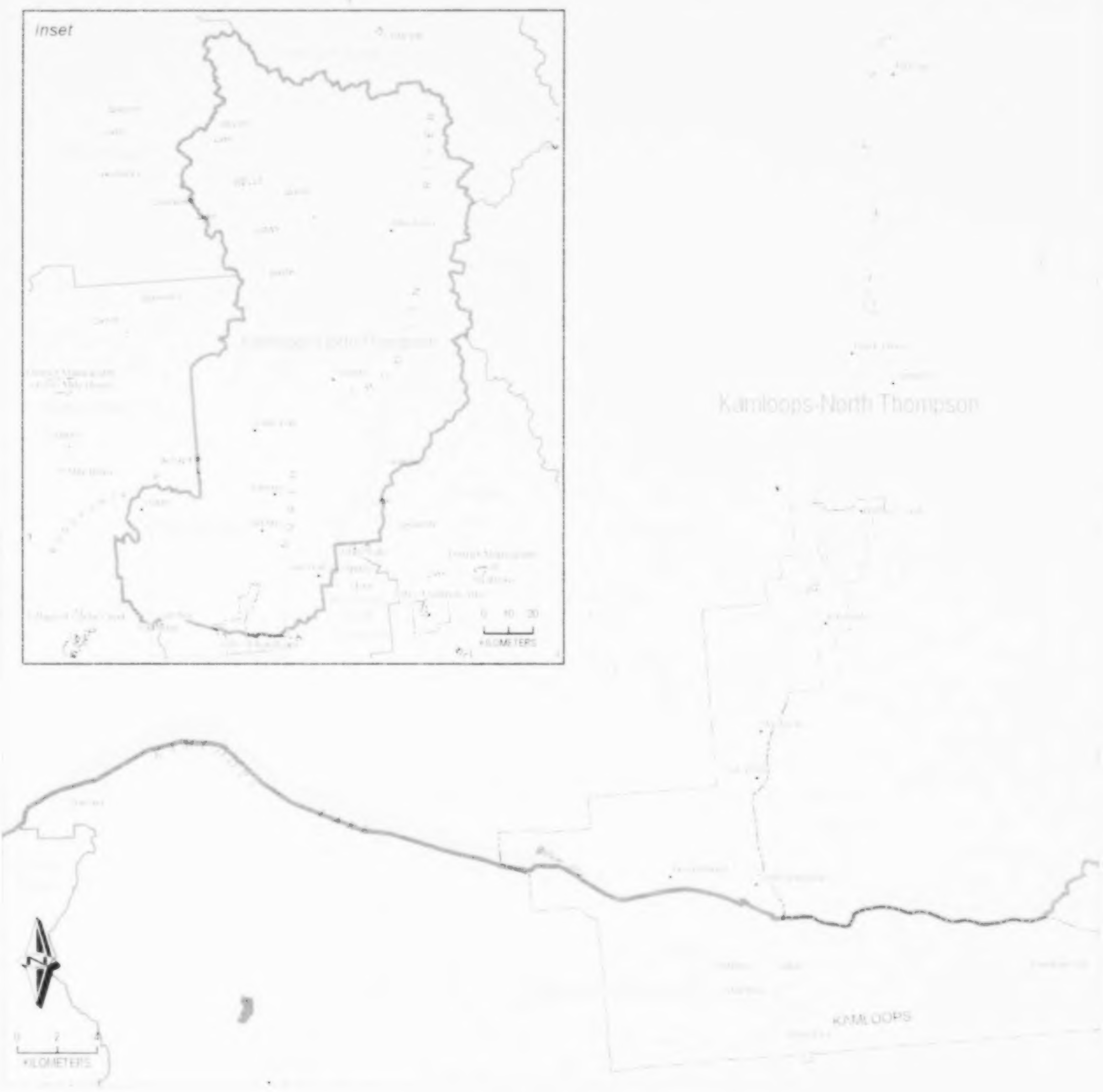
Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Kamloops–North Thompson Electoral District


Inset
Fraser-Fort George
Cedarside
Quesnel Lake
Cariboo-Chilcotin
Horsefly L.
Hobson Lake
WELLS
GRAY
PARK
Murtle
Blue River
Mahood L.
Canim
Kootenay East
Kamloops-North Thompson
District Municipality of 100 Mile House
Cariboo-Fraser
Green L.
Little Fort
Vavenby
NORTH THOMPSON RIVER
70 Mile House
Bonaparte
Barriere
Vidette
BONAPARTE
Shuswap
Adams
See Detail Map
Adams Lake
Sun Peaks
Squilax
Chase
District Municipality of Sicamous
Kamloops-South Thompson
City of Salmon Arm
Village of Cache Creek
Savona
Walhachin
City of Kamloops
0 10 20 KILOMETERS
McLure
Badger L.
Sull Lake
WHISPERING PINES
RIVER
Black Pines
Vinsulla
Kamloops-North Thompson
THOMPSON
Heffley Creek
Dairy Creek
Lac Du Bois
Rayleigh
NORTH
Westsyde
Oak Hills
Louis L.
Paul Lake
KAMLOOPS
Savona
1/97
Cariboo-Fraser
British Columbia
Cherry Creek
Brocklehurst
North Kamloops
SOUTH THOMPSON RIVER
Harper Ranch Rd
1/5/97
Dufferin
Sahali
Barnhartvale
Aberdeen
Kamloops-South Thompson
KAMLOOPS
Knutsford
0 2 KILOMETERS
Dairy Lake

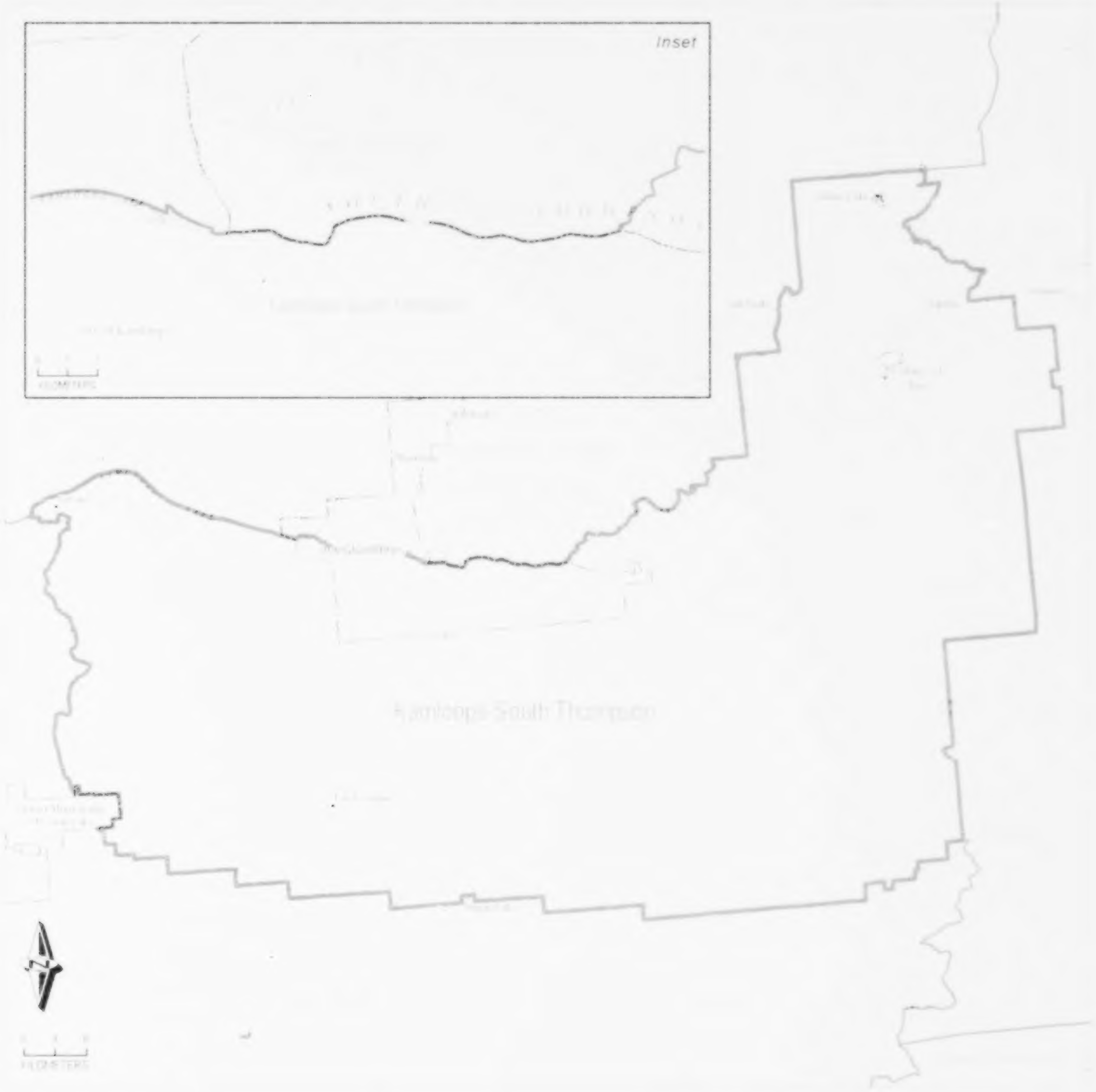
Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Kamloops–South Thompson Electoral District


Inset
Paul Creek
KAMLOOPS
Kamloops-North Thompson
SOUTH THOMPSON
1/97
1/5/97
Kamloops-South Thompson
City of Kamloops
5A
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
Adams Lake
SCOTCH CREEK
QUAAOUT
Squilax
Sorrento
Sun Peaks
MT MORRISEY
Village of Chase
NESKAINLITH
Rayleigh
Westsyde
Kamloops-North Thompson
See Inset Map
KAMLOOPS
City of Kamloops
Savona
1/97
1/5/97
Kamloops-South Thompson
Lac Le Jeune
District Municipality of Logan Lake
Shuswap
Stump Lake
Cariboo-Fraser
British Columbia
SALMON LAKE
Kelowna-Westside
ZOHT
NICOLA LAKE
DOUGLAS LAKE
CHAPPERON LAKE
0 3 6
KILOMETERS

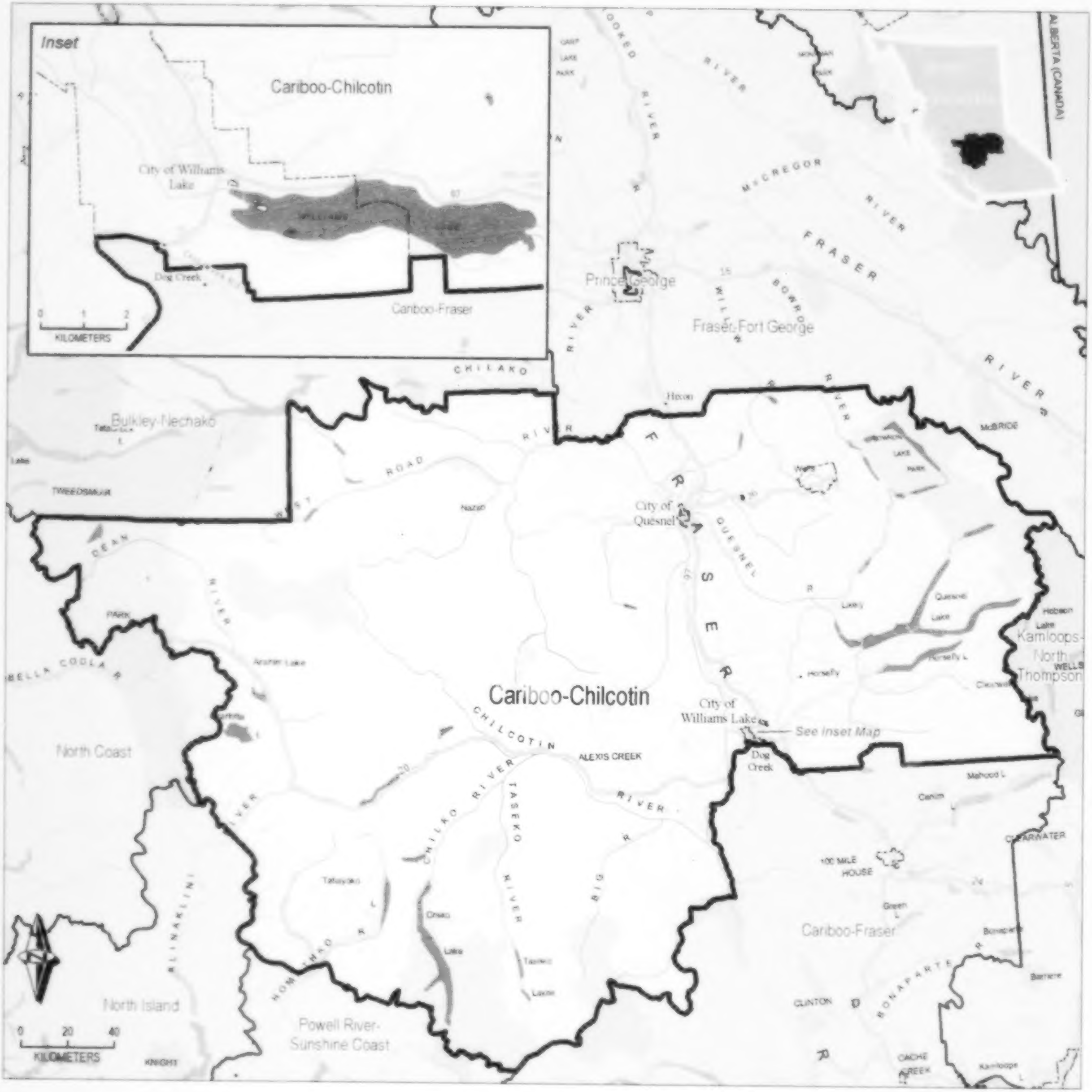
Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Kamloops-North Thompson Electoral District


inset
Kamloops-North Thompson
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Kamloops-North Thompson
KAMLOOPS
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

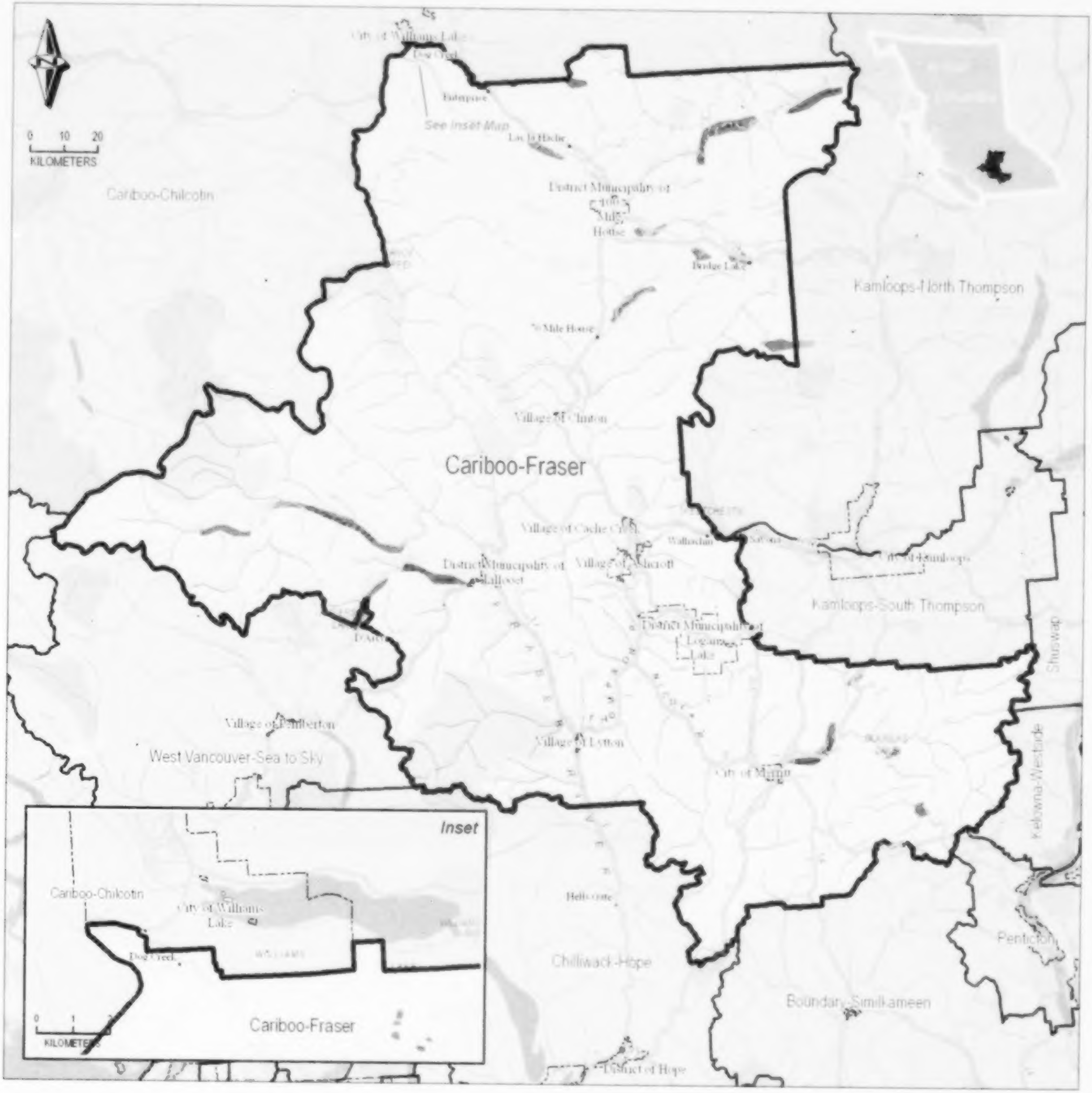
Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Kamloops-South Thompson Electoral District


Inset
KILOMETRES
Kamloops-South Thompson
Kamloops-South Thompson
KILOMETERS

Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Cariboo-Chilcotin Electoral District


Inset
Cariboo-Chilcotin
City of Williams Lake
Dog Creek
Cariboo-Fraser
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
ALBERTA (CANADA)
CROOKED RIVER
MCGREGOR RIVER
FRASER RIVER
Prince George
Fraser-Fort George
WILLOW R
BOWRON R
CHILAKO
Bulkley-Nechako
TWEEDSMUIR
Hixon
McBRIDE
WEST ROAD RIVER
Nazko
City of Quesnel
QUESNEL R
Wells
BOWRON LAKE PARK
DEAN RIVER
Quesnel Lake
Likely
Horsefly
Horsefly L
Hobson Lake
Kamloops-North Thompson
WELLS
Clearwater
Anahim Lake
BELLA COOLA R
Cariboo-Chilcotin
City of Williams Lake
See Inset Map
Dog Creek
North Coast
CHILCOTIN RIVER
ALEXIS CREEK
CHILKO RIVER
TASEKO RIVER
BIG R
Mahood L
Canim
CLEARWATER
100 MILE HOUSE
Green L
Tatlayoko L
Chilko Lake
Taseko Lake
Cariboo-Fraser
Bonaparte
BONAPARTE R
KLINAKLINI
HOMATHKO R
North Island
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
CLINTON
CACHE CREEK
Barriere
Kamloops L
KNIGHT
0 20 40
KILOMETERS

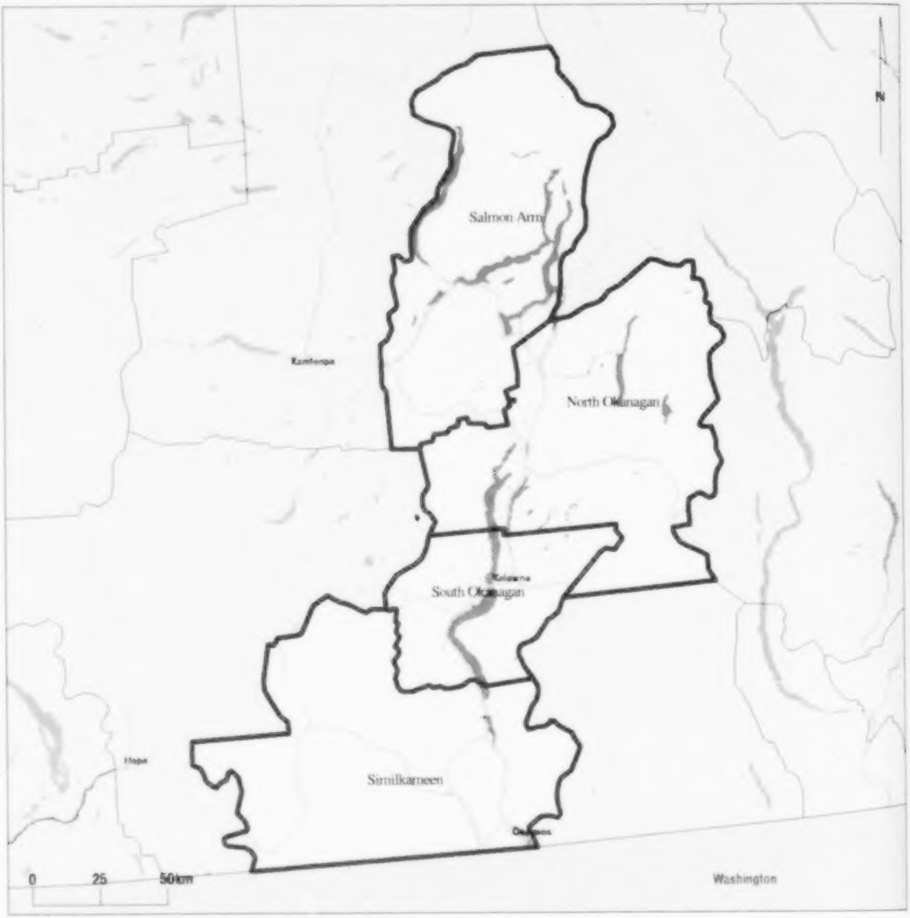
Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Cariboo-Fraser Electoral District


0 10 20
KILOMETERS
City of Williams Lake
Dog Creek
Enterprise
See Inset Map
Lac la Hache
District Municipality of 100 Mile House
Bridge Lake
70 Mile House
Cariboo-Chilcotin
Kamloops-North Thompson
Village of Clinton
Cariboo-Fraser
Village of Cache Creek
Walhachin
Savona
City of Kamloops
District Municipality of Lillooet
Village of Ashcroft
Kamloops-South Thompson
District Municipality of Logan Lake
Shuswap
Village of Pemberton
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
Village of Lytton
City of Merritt
Kelowna-Westside
Hells Gate
Chilliwack-Hope
Penticton
Boundary-Similkameen
District of Hope
Inset
Cariboo-Chilcotin
City of Williams Lake
Dog Creek
Cariboo-Fraser
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

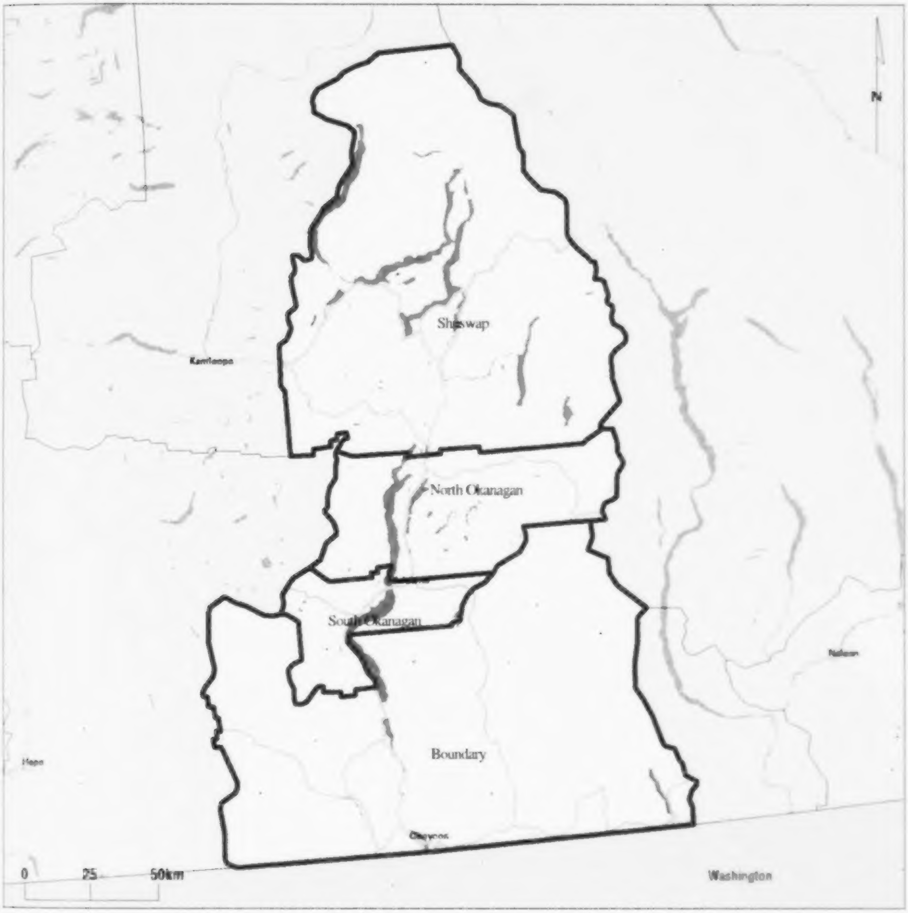
E. The Okanagan

1. Evolution of the Okanagan electoral districts

Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, there were four electoral districts in the Okanagan (see Okanagan, Map 1). Moving from north to south, they were Salmon Arm, North Okanagan, South Okanagan and Similkameen.


N
Salmon Arm
Kamloops
North Okanagan
Kelowna
South Okanagan
Hope
Similkameen
Osoyoos
0
25
50km
Washington

Okanagan, Map 1


N
Shuswap
Kamloops
North Okanagan
South Okanagan
Nelson
Hope
Boundary
Osoyoos
Washington
0
25
50km

Okanagan, Map 2

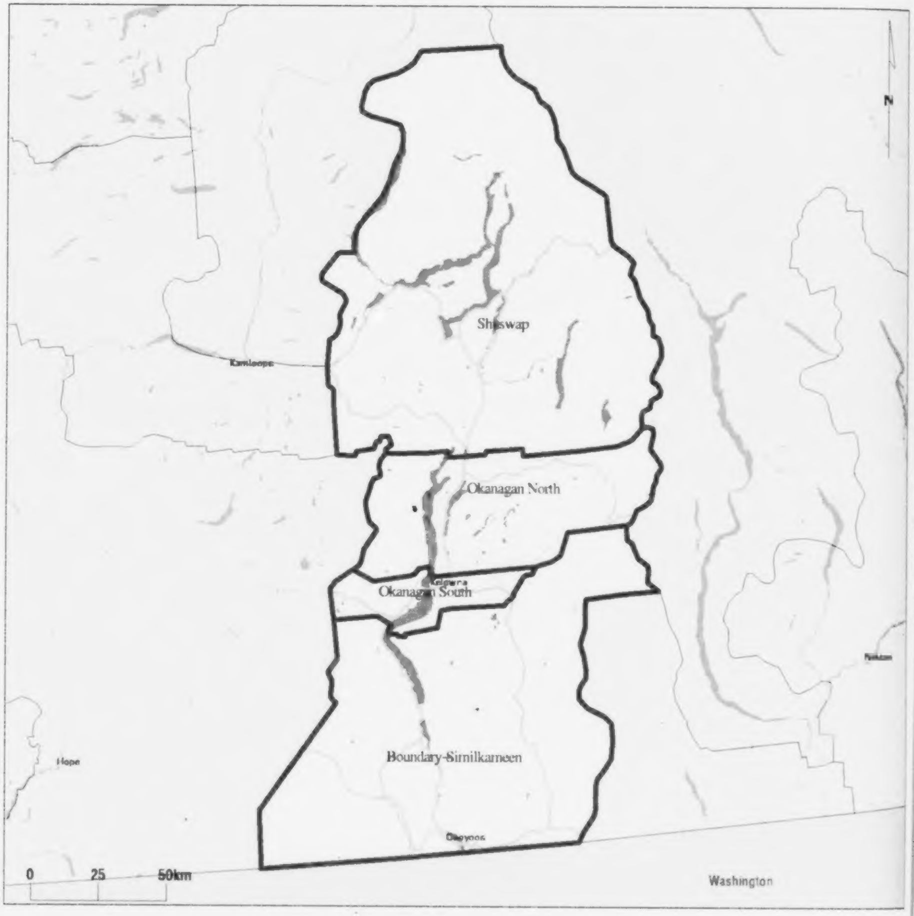
a. The Angus Commission (1966)
The Angus Commission concluded that the proper and effective representation of this region in the Legislative Assembly required four members. It made several changes to the existing electoral districts (see Okanagan, Map 2). It expanded the Salmon Arm district farther south to include Enderby and Armstrong and recommended that the district be renamed Shuswap. In Similkameen it moved the southwest boundary farther east so that Princeton became part of Yale-Lillooet, and extended the southeast boundary farther east to include Greenwood, Grand Forks and the area west of lower Arrow Lake.

The Legislative Assembly adopted these recommendations, changing the name of the Similkameen district to Boundary-Similkameen.

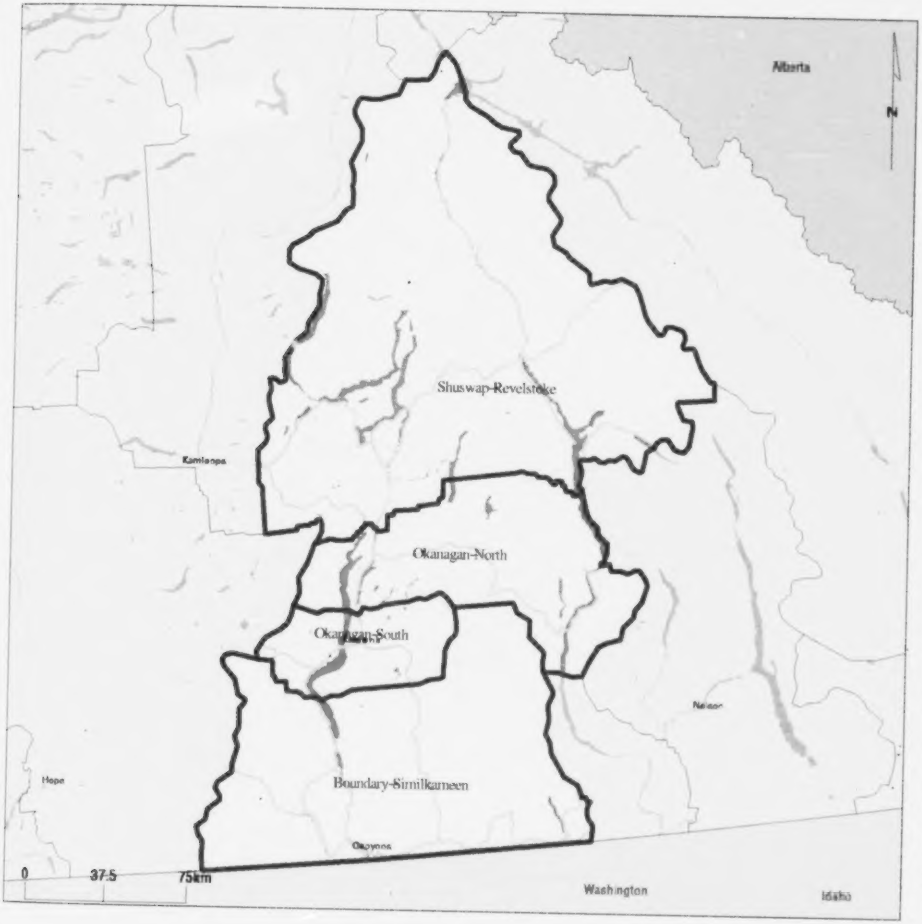
b. The Norris Commission (1975)

The Norris Commission also recommended the retention of four Okanagan electoral districts. In Boundary-Similkameen, it proposed moving the northern boundary farther north to include Summerland and Peachland, and moving the southeastern boundary farther west, so that Midway, Greenwood and Grand Forks would become part of the Rossland-Trail electoral district (see Okanagan, Map 3).

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt any of the Norris Commission's recommendations.


N
Shuswap
Kamloops
Okanagan North
Kelowna
Okanagan South
Boundary-Similkameen
Hope
Osoyoos
Nelson
Washington
0
25
50km

Okanagan, Map 3



Okanagan, Map 4

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)

Judge Eckardt recommended the continuation of four electoral districts, but with several significant changes (Okanagan, Map 4). He proposed that Shuswap be expanded eastward to include Revelstoke and part of Glacier National Park, and that the electoral district be renamed Shuswap-Revelstoke. In North Okanagan (which he proposed be renamed Okanagan-North), he recommended that the resort area of Silver Star, Mabel Lake and Sugar Lake be transferred from Shuswap to North Okanagan (due to transportation and other links to Vernon) and that the three Lower Arrow Lake communities of Burton, Fauquier and Edgewood be transferred from Revelstoke-Slocan into North Okanagan.

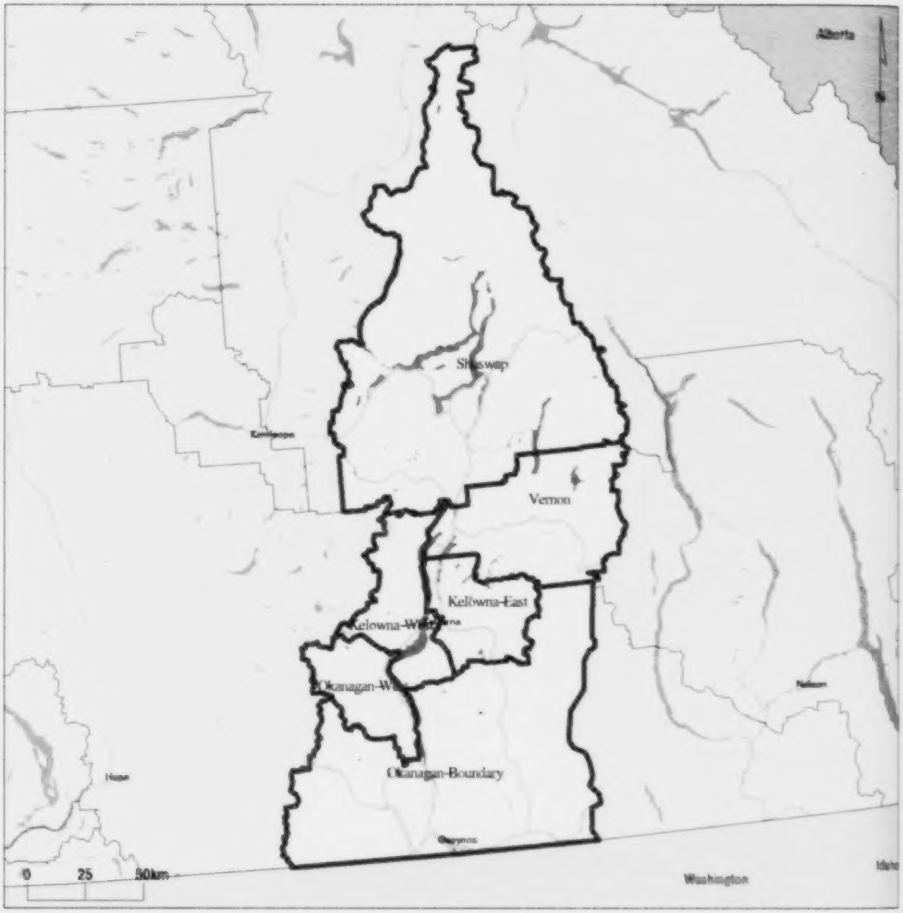
In South Okanagan (which he proposed be renamed Okanagan-South), he recommended that the northern boundary be extended farther north to include the entire City of Kelowna, and that the Big White Mountain resort area be transferred from Boundary-Similkameen to this district. In Boundary-Similkameen, he recommended that Summerland be transferred from South Okanagan to this electoral district, "due to the strong ties between that area and Penticton."

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

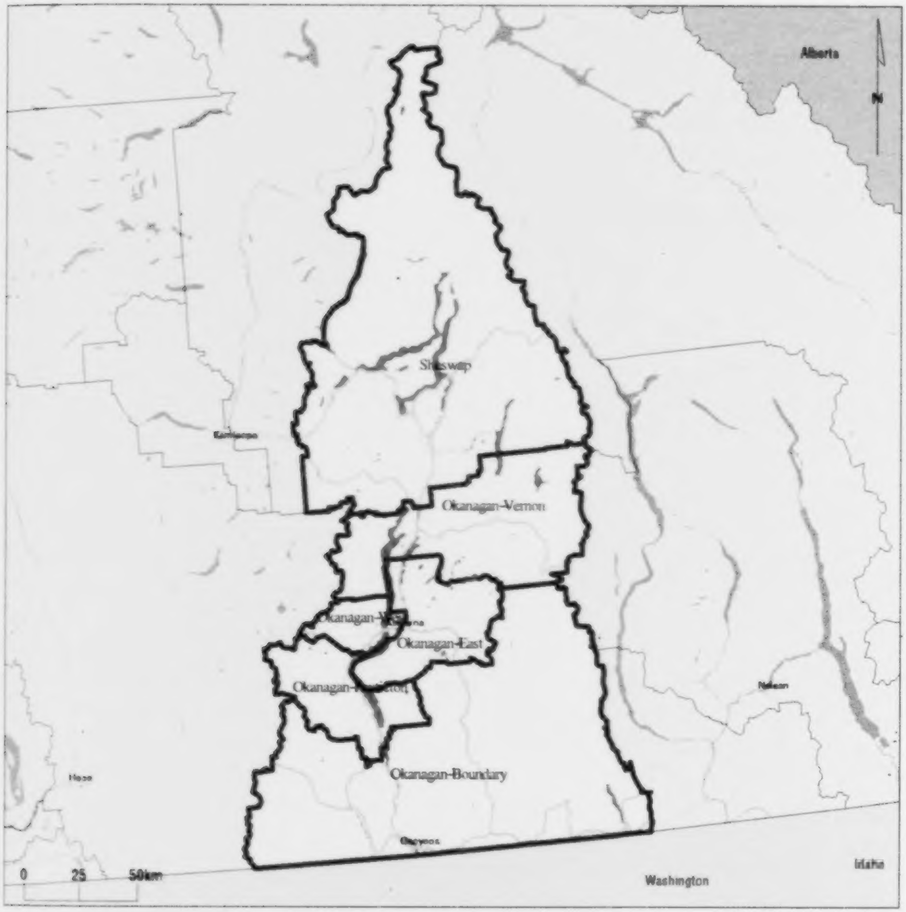
d. The Warren Commission (1982)
Mr. Warren recommended that a second MLA be added to seven electoral districts, including Okanagan South, but the Legislative Assembly did not adopt this recommendation.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
The McAdam Commission recommended that a second MLA be added to 11 one-member districts, including Okanagan South and Boundary-Similkameen. The Legislative Assembly adopted these recommendations, giving the Okanagan six MLAs.

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
Judge Fisher was required to eliminate the two-member ridings of Okanagan South and Boundary-Similkameen. In his interim report, he recommended that the number of Okanagan districts be increased from four to six (see Okanagan, Map 5), including the transfer of Revelstoke back to his proposed new Columbia River–Revelstoke district. He also divided Penticton down Main Street and Skaha Lake Road, and transferred Greenwood and Grand Forks into the proposed new Kootenay district of Grand Forks–Trail.


Alberta
Shuswap
Kamloops
Vernon
Kelowna-East
Kelowna-W
Okanagan-W
Okanagan-Boundary
Hope
Osoyoos
Nelson
Washington
Idaho
0
25
50km

Okanagan, Map 5


Alberta
N
Shuswap
Kamloops
Okanagan-Vernon
Okanagan-West
Kelowna
Okanagan-East
Okanagan-Penticton
Nelson
Hope
Okanagan-Boundary
Osoyoos
Idaho
0
25
50km
Washington

Okanagan, Map 6

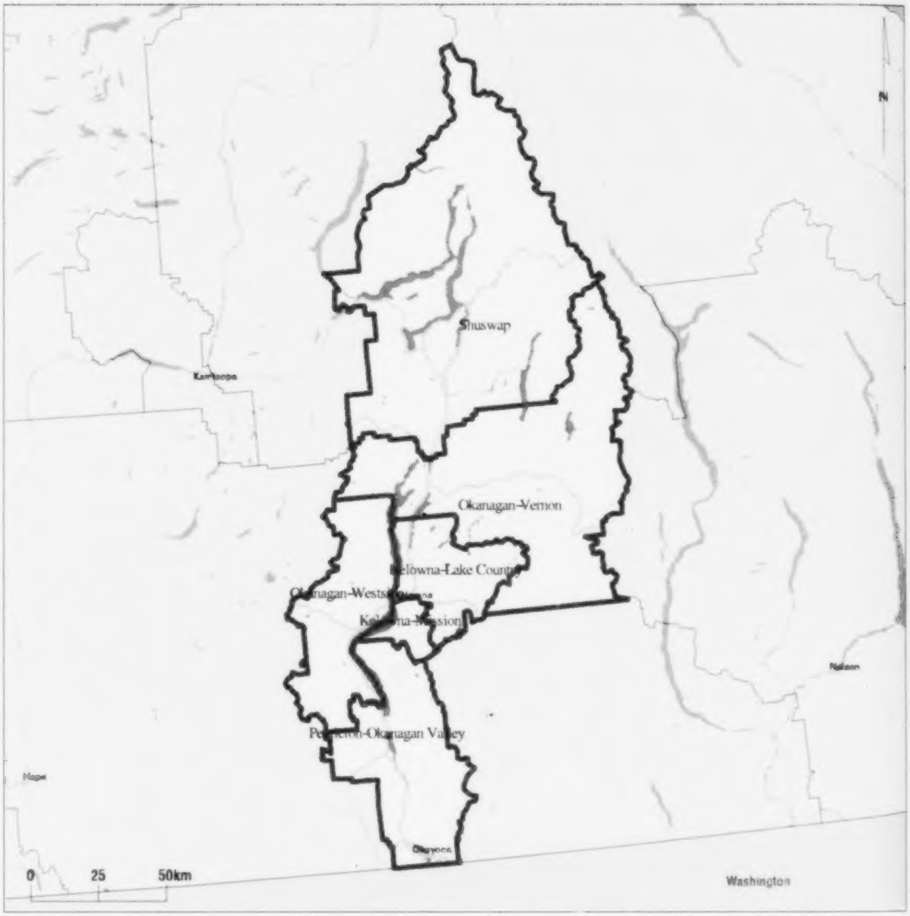
In his final report, Judge Fisher continued to recommend six electoral districts, but with some substantial revisions. For example, Kelowna West would span the lake, including the city's downtown core and Westbank. Penticton would no longer be split between two electoral districts, and Okanagan-Boundary would extend from Hedley in the west to Christina Lake in the east. The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations, changing the names of Kelowna East and Kelowna West to Okanagan East and Okanagan West, respectively (see Okanagan, Map 6).

g. The Wood Commission (1999)

In its interim report, the Wood Commission observed that the deviations in six Okanagan electoral districts ranged from plus 54 percent to minus 21 percent, but was satisfied that these disparities could be addressed through rebalancing the existing electoral districts rather than adding a seventh (see Okanagan, Map 7). The commission created a new electoral district exclusively west of Lake Okanagan (Okanagan-Westside), stretching from

Killeney Beach in the north to Summerland in the south. A new Penticton–Okanagan Valley district would now include Penticton and Naramata, but would lose communities to the southeast (Bridesville, Rock Creek, Greenwood and Grand Forks) to the proposed new West Kootenay–Boundary district, and would lose communities to the southwest (Cawston, Keremeos and Hedley) to the proposed Yale-Similkameen district.

In its final report, the Wood Commission acknowledged strong public support for a seventh Okanagan district, but was not persuaded that the population warranted this step, and was not willing to recommend an even number (80) of electoral districts. Besides, it was necessary to transfer population from the southwest and southeast quadrants of Penticton-Okanagan Valley into Yale-Lillooet and West Kootenay–Boundary, respectively, to address serious under-population problems in those areas. Finally, the commission was unable to accede to the request that the District of Summerland be included in Penticton–Okanagan Valley, as it would produce a deviation well above plus 25 percent.


N
Shuswap
Kamloops
Okanagan-Vernon
Kelowna-Lake Country
Okanagan-Westside
Kelowna-Mission
Penticton-Okanagan Valley
Nelson
Hope
Osoyoos
0
25
50km
Washington

Okanagan, Map 7

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

2. *Our analysis of the Okanagan electoral districts*

The geographical area that we define as the Okanagan region currently has six electoral districts (see map, page 124). Commencing in the north they are Shuswap, Okanagan-Vernon, Kelowna–Lake Country, Kelowna-Mission, Okanagan-Westside and Penticton–Okanagan Valley. These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 11):

TABLE 11: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE OKANAGAN

Electoral District	**1996 deviation***	**2006 deviation****
Shuswap	+2.6%	-0.7%
Okanagan-Vernon	+17.4%	+16.9%
Kelowna–Lake Country	+8.8%	+18%
Kelowna-Mission	+11.3%	+16.7%
Okanagan-Westside	-7.2%	-1.5%
Penticton–Okanagan Valley	+18.2%	+12.4%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

These six electoral districts have a total population of 344,623. If we were to rebalance the population among all six electoral districts so that each district had the same population, it would produce an average deviation of plus 10.3 percent (based on 79 electoral districts). In our view, that would be too high for such a fast-growing area. It would also result in the arbitrary carving up of many communities sharing long-standing interests, a result that we should avoid.

Given this region's population growth and our desire to respect community interests, we concluded the Okanagan's representation should be increased from six to seven electoral districts.

We began by reviewing what people had told us during the public consultation, and what anomalies had been identified in the 1999 Wood Commission report – areas that should have been put into one electoral district, but were put into another for overriding population reasons. For example:

- Summerland and Penticton are neighbours but were, for population-balancing reasons, placed into different electoral districts.
- Keremeos and other southern Similkameen communities have a natural affinity to Oliver and Osoyoos, and should be in an Okanagan based district.
- For the reasons discussed earlier in this part of the report (see "Cariboo-Thompson"), we are of the view that Princeton should be in the same electoral district as Keremeos.
- The electoral districts centred around Penticton, Kelowna and Vernon have grown dramatically since the 1996 census, with continued growth anticipated.

Having redefined our outer boundaries for the Okanagan region, we began reconfiguring electoral districts, with the goal of having seven electoral districts that would, as much as possible, preserve the integrity of municipal boundaries and that would respect other important community interests.

Beginning in the north, our proposed Shuswap electoral district (see map of proposed Shuswap electoral district page 126) is very similar to the current district. It will include Sicamous, Salmon Arm, Enderby, Armstrong and Spallumcheen. It will have a deviation of plus 5.7 percent based on 81 electoral districts.

Moving southward, we have been able to create an electoral district that is quite similar to the current Okanagan-Vernon electoral district, except that it does not extend west of Lake Okanagan. It will include all of Vernon (pop. 35,944), Coldstream (pop. 9,471) and Lumby (pop. 1,634), as well as rural areas farther east along Highway 6. This electoral district, which we propose be named Vernon-Monashee (see map of proposed Vernon-Monashee electoral district, page 127), will have a deviation of plus 15.3 percent. Although this deviation is higher than we would have liked, there is no way to reduce it without separating part of the Vernon population into an adjacent electoral district. In our view, preserving Vernon's municipal integrity should take priority over population parity.

Moving farther southward, the District Municipality of Lake Country (pop. 9,606) extends from the southern boundary of Vernon to the northern boundary of Kelowna. We decided to preserve the current electoral district that joins Lake Country with the northern part of Kelowna (see map of proposed Kelowna–Lake Country electoral district, page 128), and preserve the current Kelowna-Mission electoral district (see map of proposed Kelowna-Mission electoral district, page 129), using Highways 97 and 33 as the divider between them. They will have deviations of plus 2.3 percent and plus 4.8 percent, respectively.

Given Kelowna's population (pop. 106,707) and the fact that it is growing, we found it necessary to include the balance of its residents (pop. 17,015) with those living across the bridge on the west side of Lake Okanagan. In 1988 Judge Fisher had recommended an electoral district spanning the lake, which the Legislative Assembly adopted. There are, we were told, strong community ties between Kelowna and adjacent residential areas west of the lake, evidenced by the current amalgamation discussions and the new Bennett Bridge. On the west side of the lake, this district would extend northward to Killeney Beach (the current boundary), and would extend southward to Highway 97C, just south of Westbank (see map of proposed Kelowna-Westside electoral district, page 130). We propose that this district be named Kelowna-Westside. It would have a deviation of plus 2.1 percent.

From Highway 97C south, there is now sufficient population to create two electoral districts. We are proposing that the District Municipalities of Peachland (pop. 4,883) and Summerland (pop. 10,828) be combined with the City of Penticton (pop. 31,909) and the unincorporated community of Naramata to form a new electoral district that we propose be named Penticton (see map of proposed Penticton electoral district, page 131). It will extend as far south as the southern boundaries of the City of Penticton and the Penticton Indian reserve. It will have a deviation of plus 5.9 percent.

Having already decided that Princeton, Hedley and Keremeos should be included in an Okanagan-oriented electoral district, we have created a new district (that we propose be named Boundary-Similkameen – see map, page 132), which would extend from Princeton in the west, to Christina Lake in the east, and to Okanagan Falls and Kaleden in the north. It will also include Grand Forks, Rock Creek, Midway, Greenwood and Bridesville. The Similkameen communities to the west of Osoyoos and the Boundary communities to its east are all connected by Highway 3, and are similar rural, agricultural communities. The Boundary communities were part of an Okanagan based electoral district between 1966 and 1999. Our proposed Boundary-Similkameen district will have a deviation of minus 15.2 percent. Although this deviation is larger than we would have liked, the only options for reducing it were to encroach into the municipality of Penticton, move farther north from Princeton to Merritt, or extend the eastern boundary farther east to Rossland. In our view, all of those options would result in violations of community interests.

3. Conclusion

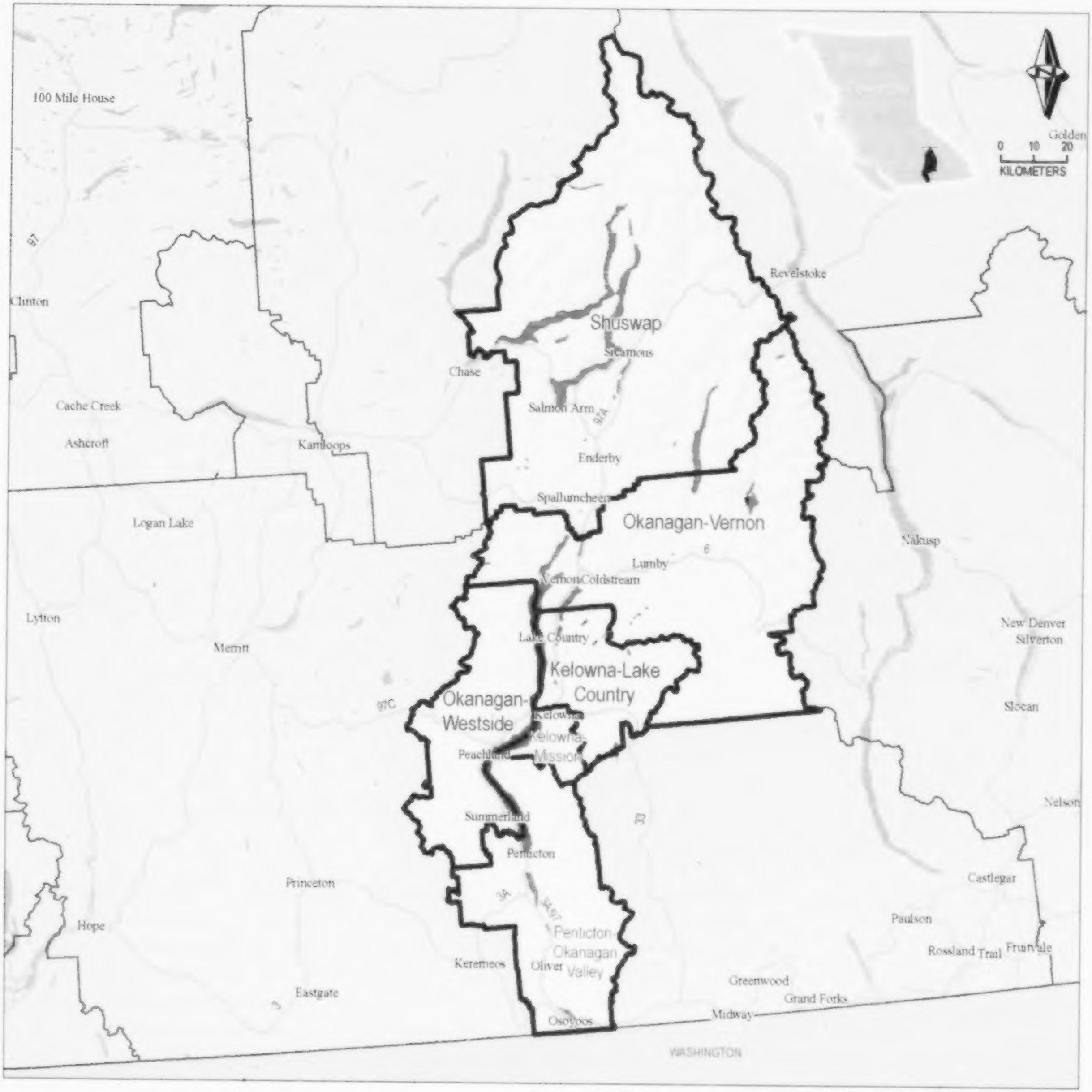
Accordingly, we propose that there be seven electoral districts in the Okanagan, as follows:

[illegible]

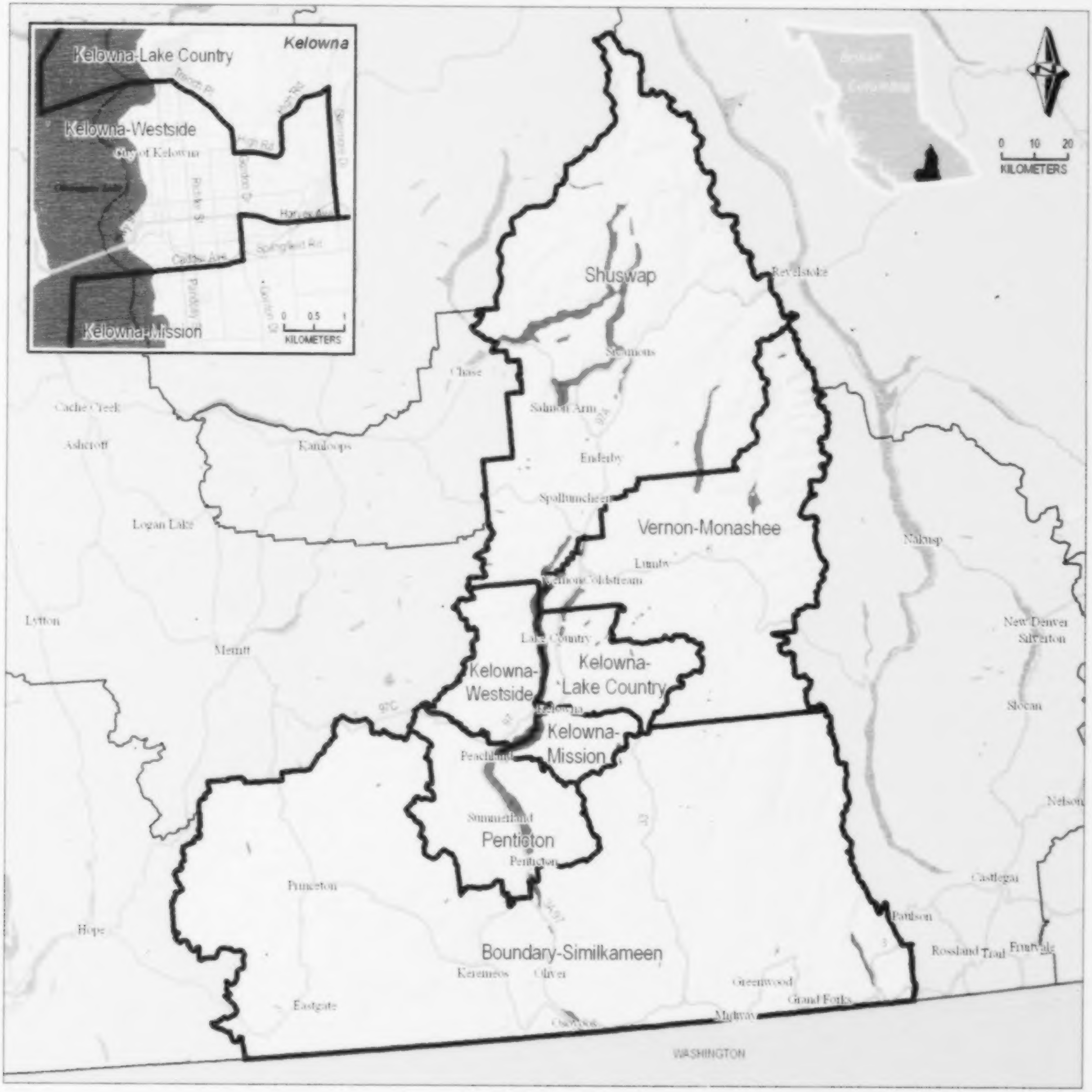
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Shuswap	8,626	53,658	+5.7%
Vernon-Monashee	5,016	58,538	+15.3%
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,181	51,968	+2.3%
Kelowna-Mission	564	53,231	+4.8%
Kelowna-Westside	1,140	51,850	+2.1%
Penticton	1,919	53,777	+5.9%
Boundary-Similkameen	15,954	43,052	-15.2%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

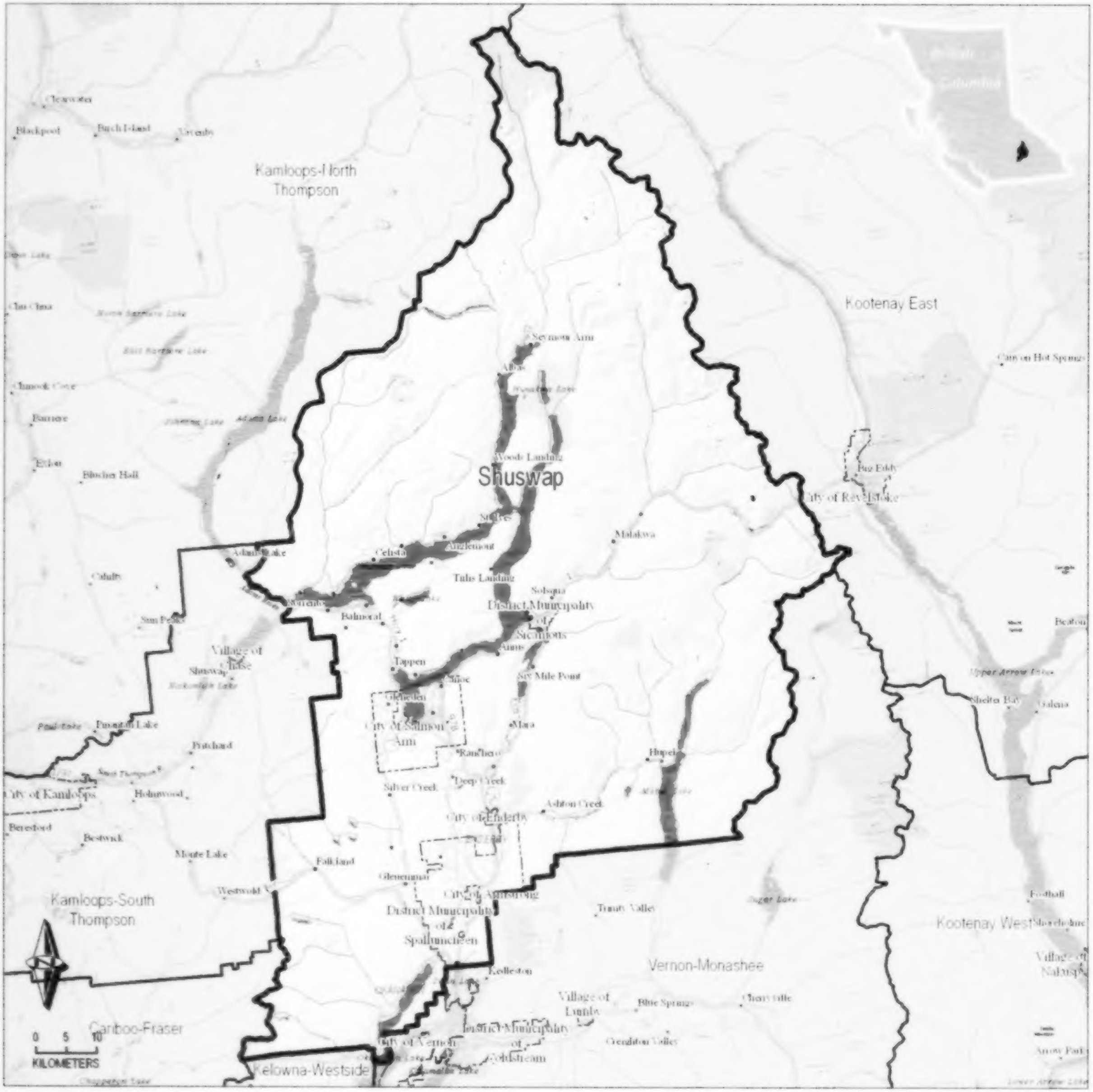
Region: Okanagan – Current Electoral Districts


100 Mile House
Golden
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
97
Clinton
Revelstoke
Shuswap
Sicamous
Chase
Cache Creek
Salmon Arm
97A
Ashcroft
Kamloops
Enderby
Spallumcheen
Logan Lake
Okanagan-Vernon
6
Lumby
Nakusp
Vernon Coldstream
Lytton
Lake Country
New Denver
Silverton
Merritt
Kelowna-Lake Country
97C
Okanagan-Westside
Kelowna
Kelowna-Mission
Slocan
Peachland
Nelson
33
Summerland
Penticton
Castlegar
Princeton
3A
Paulson
Hope
Penticton-Okanagan Valley
Rossland
Trail
Fruitvale
Keremeos
Oliver
Greenwood
Eastgate
3
Grand Forks
Midway
Osoyoos
WASHINGTON

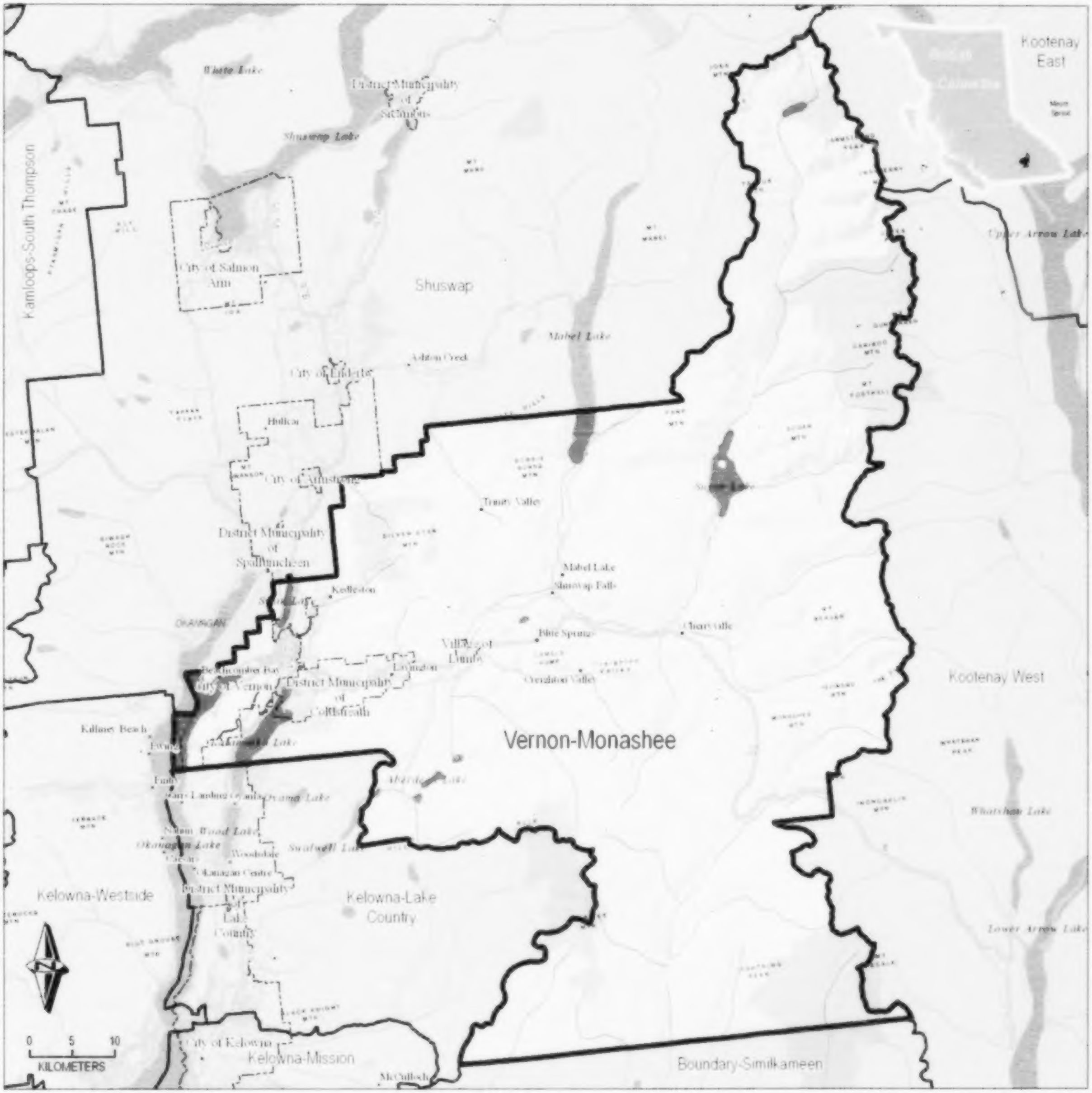
Region: Okanagan – Proposed Electoral Districts


Kelowna
Kelowna-Lake Country
Kelowna-Westside
City of Kelowna
High Rd
Gordon Dr
Richter St
Harvey Ave
Springfield Rd
Pandosy St
Kelowna-Mission
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Shuswap
Revelstoke
Sicamous
Chase
Salmon Arm
Enderby
Cache Creek
Ashcroft
Kamloops
Spallumcheen
Logan Lake
Vernon-Monashee
Lumby
Nakusp
Vernon/Coldstream
Lytton
Merritt
Lake Country
Kelowna-Lake Country
Kelowna-Westside
Kelowna
Kelowna-Mission
New Denver
Silverton
Slocan
Peachland
Summerland
Penticton
Penticton
Nelson
Princeton
Castlegar
Hope
Boundary-Similkameen
Keremeos
Oliver
Greenwood
Grand Forks
Midway
Osoyoos
Eastgate
Rossland
Trail
Fruitvale
Robson
WASHINGTON

Region: Okanagan – Proposed Shuswap Electoral District

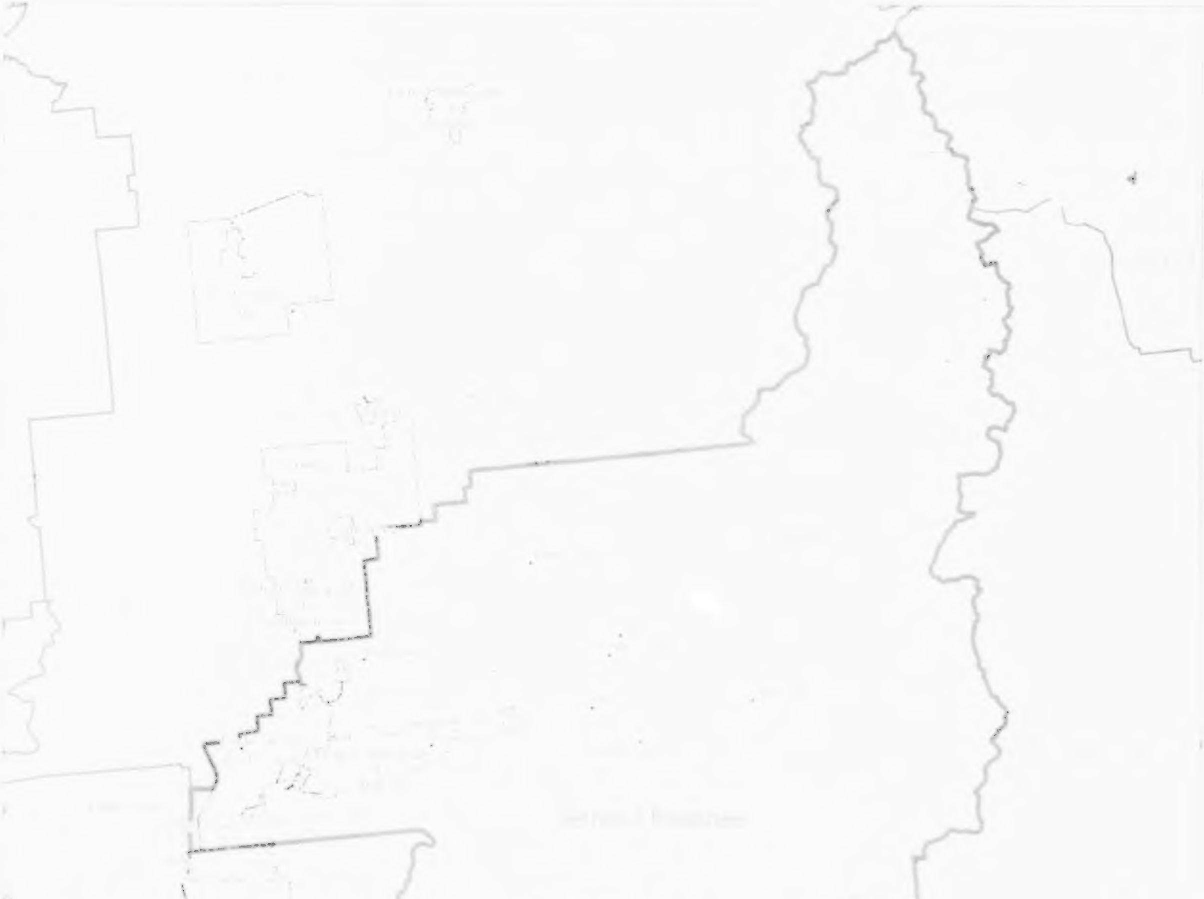

Shuswap
Kamloops-North Thompson
Kootenay East
Kamloops-South Thompson
Kootenay West
Vernon-Monashee
Cariboo-Fraser
Kelowna-Westside
Clearwater
Blackpool
Birch Island
Vavenby
Clinton
Chinook Cove
Barriere
Exlou
Adams Lake
Seymour Arm
Albas
Woods Landing
St. Ives
Celista
Anglemont
Tulis Landing
Sorrento
Balmoral
Malakwa
Solsqua
District Municipality of Sicamous
Annis
Tappen
Canoe
Six Mile Point
Glenden
City of Salmon Arm
Mara
Ranchero
Deep Creek
Silver Creek
Hupel
Ashton Creek
City of Enderby
Falkland
Glenemma
City of Armstrong
District Municipality of Spallumcheen
Trinity Valley
Village of Chase
Pritchard
City of Kamloops
Monte Lake
Westwold
Big Eddy
City of Revelstoke
Canyon Hot Springs
Shelter Bay
Galena
Upper Arrow Lake
Village of Lumby
Blue Springs
Cherryville
Creighton Valley
City of Vernon
District Municipality of Coldstream
Village of Nakusp
Arrow Park
Fauquier
British Columbia
0 5 10
KILOMETERS

Region: Okanagan – Proposed Vernon-Monashee Electoral District

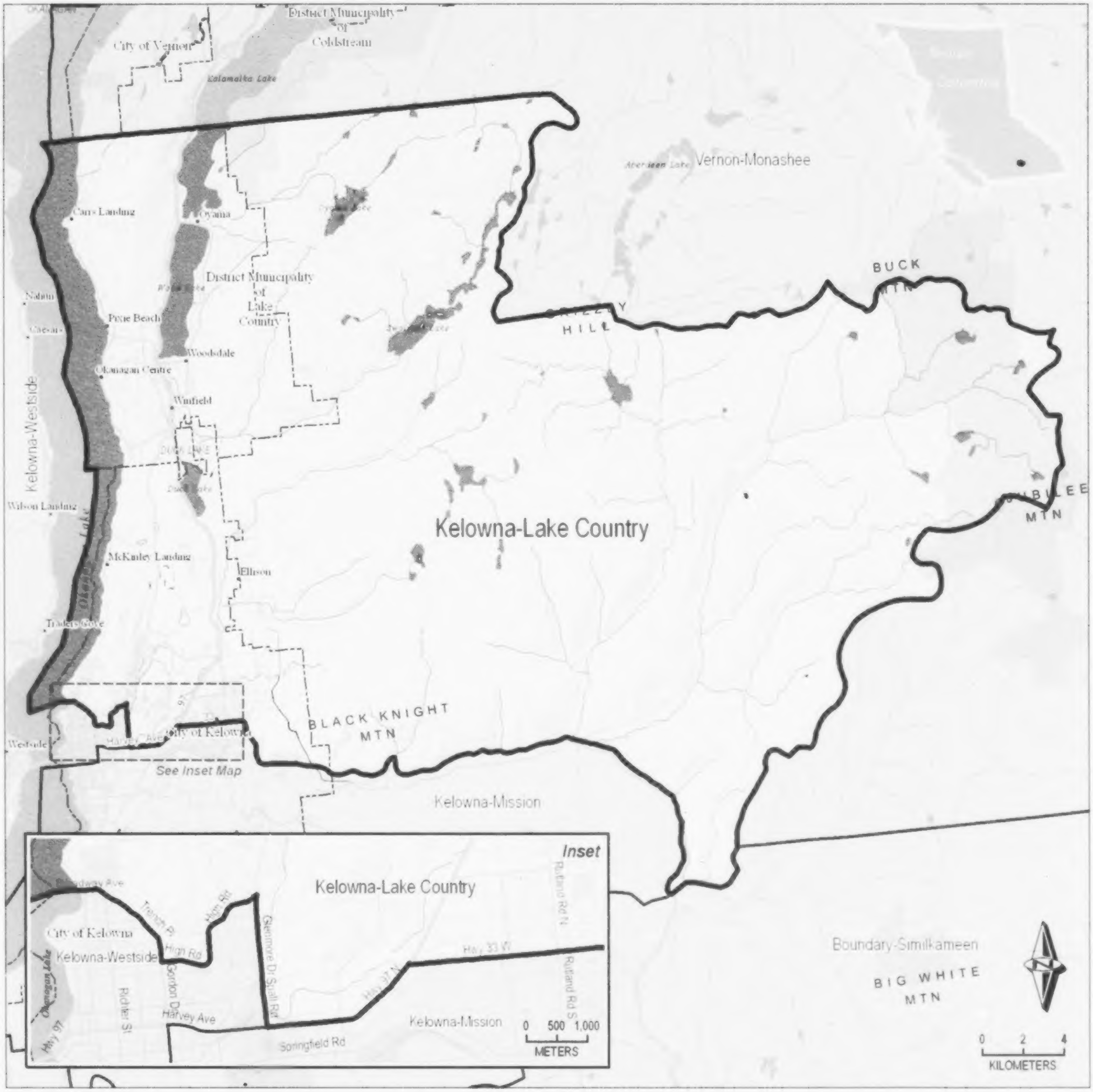

Kootenay East
Kamloops-South Thompson
White Lake
District Municipality of Salmon Arm
Shuswap Lake
City of Salmon Arm
Shuswap
Mabel Lake
Ashton Creek
City of Enderby
Hullcar
City of Armstrong
District Municipality of Spallumcheen
Trinity Valley
Upper Arrow Lake
Sugar Lake
Mabel Lake
Shuswap Falls
Kedleston
Cherryville
OKANAGAN
Blue Springs
Village of Lumby
Lavington
Beachcomber Bay
City of Vernon
District Municipality of Coldstream
Creighton Valley
Kootenay West
Killiney Beach
Ewing
Kalamalka Lake
Vernon-Monashee
Fintry
Carrs Landing
Oyama
Oyama Lake
Aberdeen Lake
Whatshan Lake
Nahun
Wood Lake
Okanagan Lake
Woodsdale
Swalwell Lake
Okanagan Centre
District Municipality of Lake Country
Kelowna-Westside
Kelowna-Lake Country
Lower Arrow Lake
0
5
10
KILOMETERS
City of Kelowna
Kelowna-Mission
McCulloch
Boundary-Similkameen

Region: Okanagan – Proposed Shuswap Electoral District

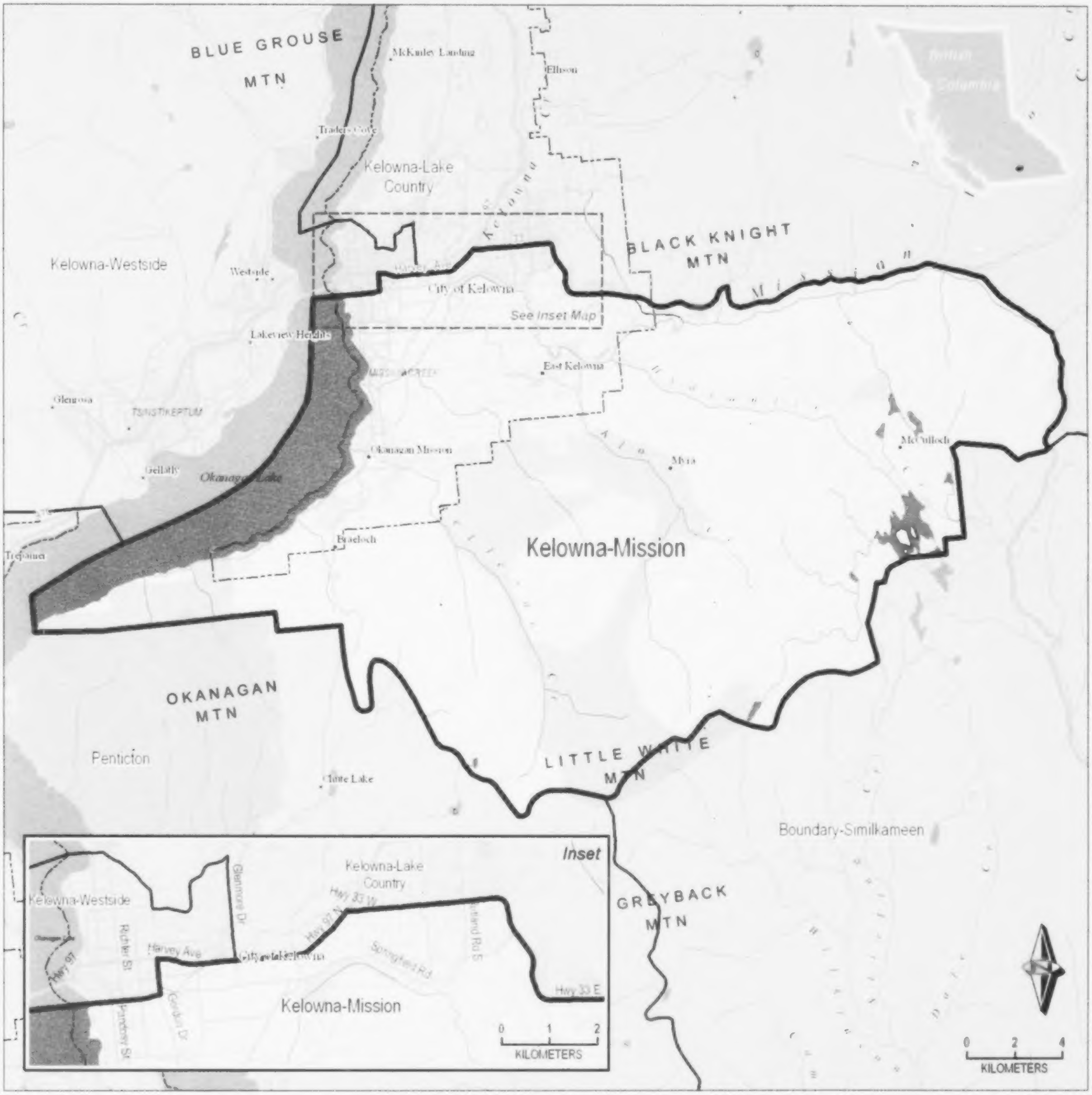
Region: Okanagan – Proposed Vernon-Monashee Electoral District



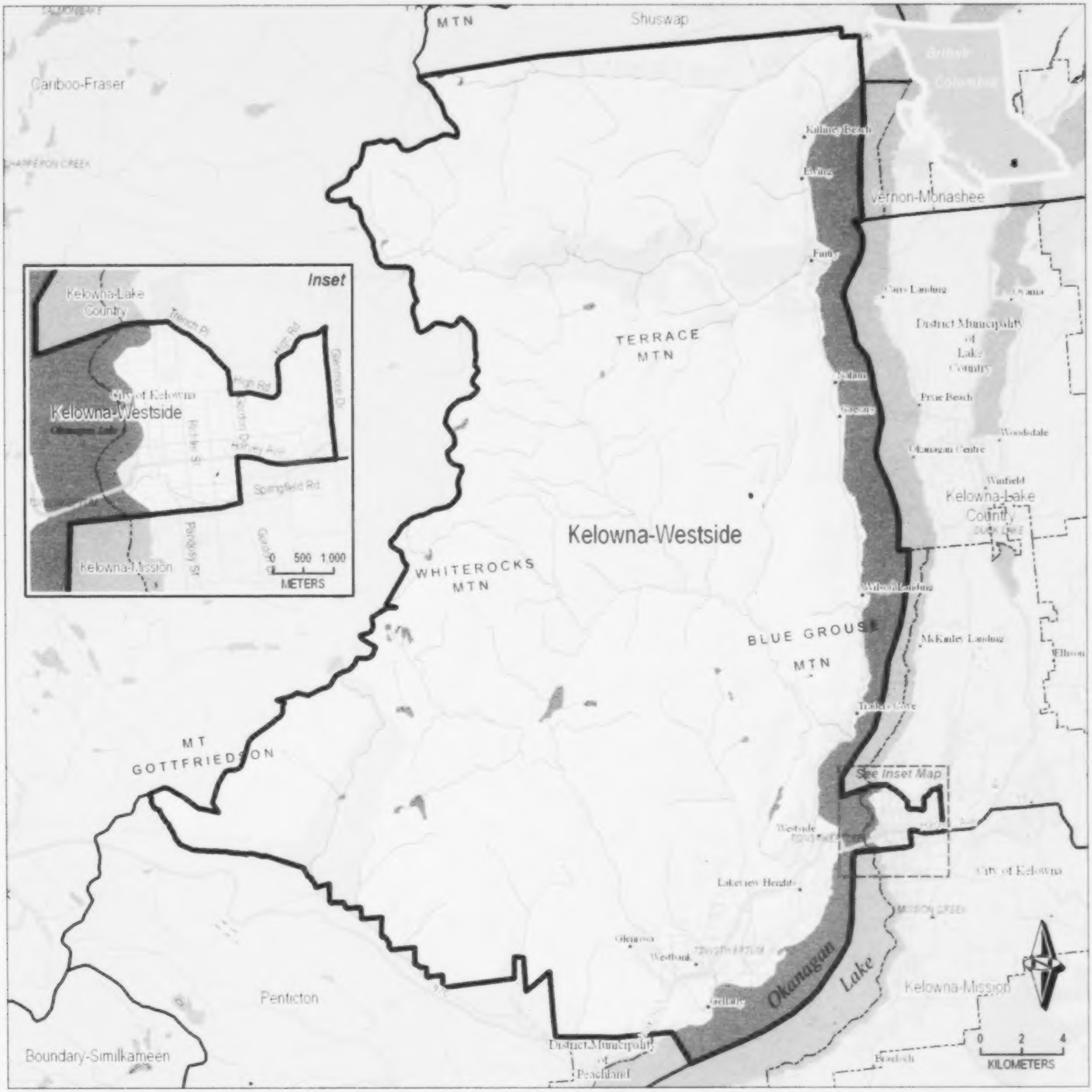
Region: Okanagan – Proposed Kelowna–Lake Country Electoral District


District Municipality of Coldstream
City of Vernon
Kalamalka Lake
Vernon-Monashee
Aberdeen Lake
Carrs Landing
Oyama
District Municipality of Lake Country
Wood Lake
Nahun
Pete Beach
Caesars
Woodsdale
Okanagan Centre
Winfield
Duck Lake
Kelowna-Westside
Wilson Landing
McKinley Landing
Ellison
Okanagan Lake
Traders Cove
Westside
Harvey Ave
City of Kelowna
97
See Inset Map
BUCK MTN
GRIZZLY HILL
JUBILEE MTN
BLACK KNIGHT MTN
Kelowna-Lake Country
Kelowna-Mission
Boundary-Similkameen
BIG WHITE MTN
Inset
Kelowna-Lake Country
Broadway Ave
Trench Pl
High Rd
City of Kelowna
Kelowna-Westside
Okanagan Lake
Glenmore Dr Spall Rd
Gordon Dr
Richter St
Hwy 97
Harvey Ave
Hwy 97 N
Hwy 33 W
Rutland Rd N
Rutland Rd S
Kelowna-Mission
Springfield Rd
0 500 1,000
METERS
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

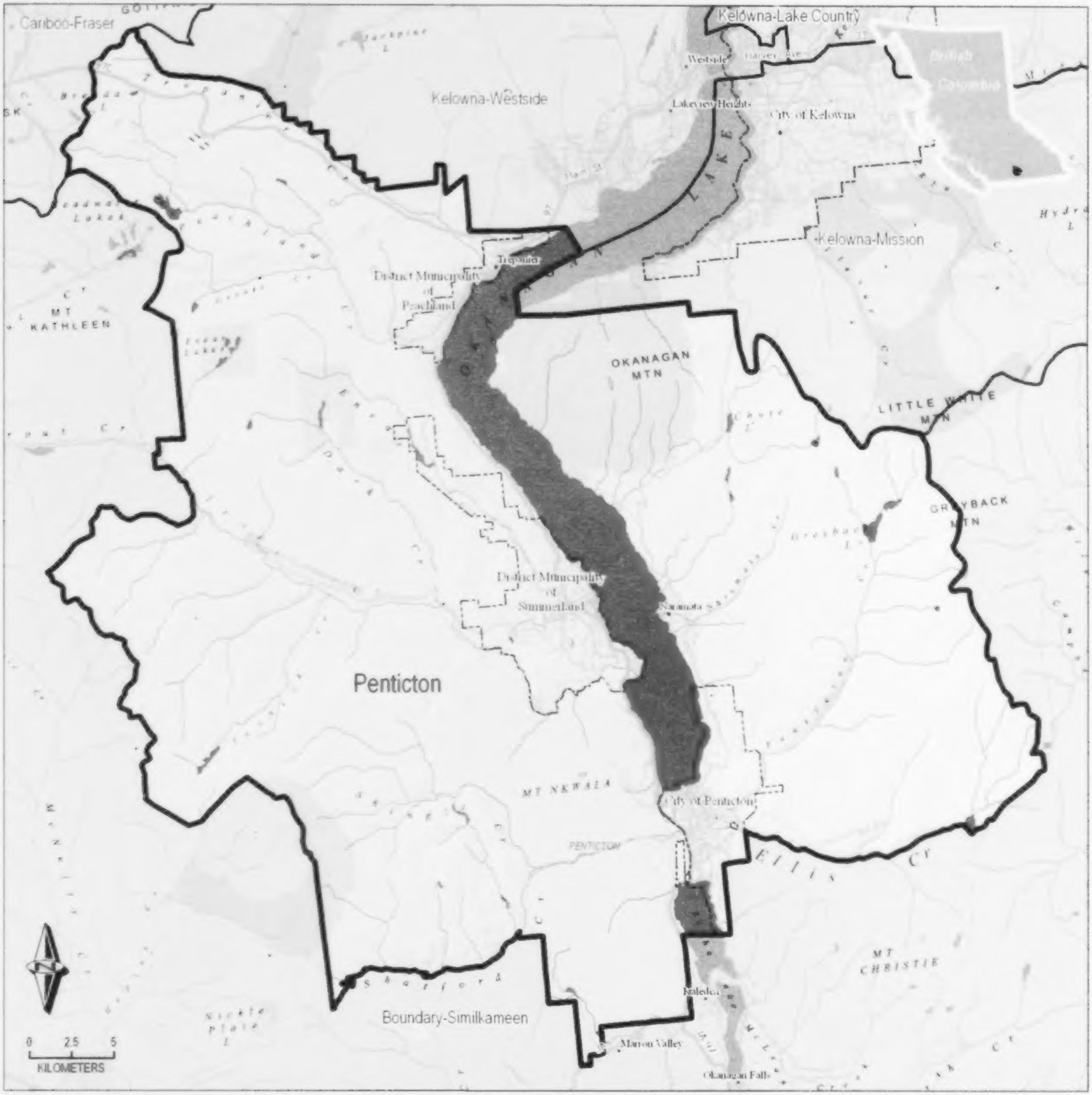
Region: Okanagan – Proposed Kelowna-Mission Electoral District


BLUE GROUSE MTN
McKinley Landing
Ellison
British Columbia
Traders Cove
Kelowna-Lake Country
Kelowna-Westside
Westside
City of Kelowna
See Inset Map
BLACK KNIGHT MTN
Mission
Lakeview Heights
East Kelowna
Glenrosa
TSINSTIKEPTUM
Okanagan Mission
Myra
McCulloch
Gellatly
Okanagan Lake
Trepanier
Kelowna-Mission
OKANAGAN MTN
Penticton
Chute Lake
LITTLE WHITE MTN
Boundary-Similkameen
GREYBACK MTN
Inset
Kelowna-Lake Country
Kelowna-Westside
Glenmore Dr
Hwy 33 W
Hwy 97 N
Richter St
Harvey Ave
City of Kelowna
Springfield Rd
Hwy 97
Gordon Dr
Pandosy St
Kelowna-Mission
Hwy 33 E
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

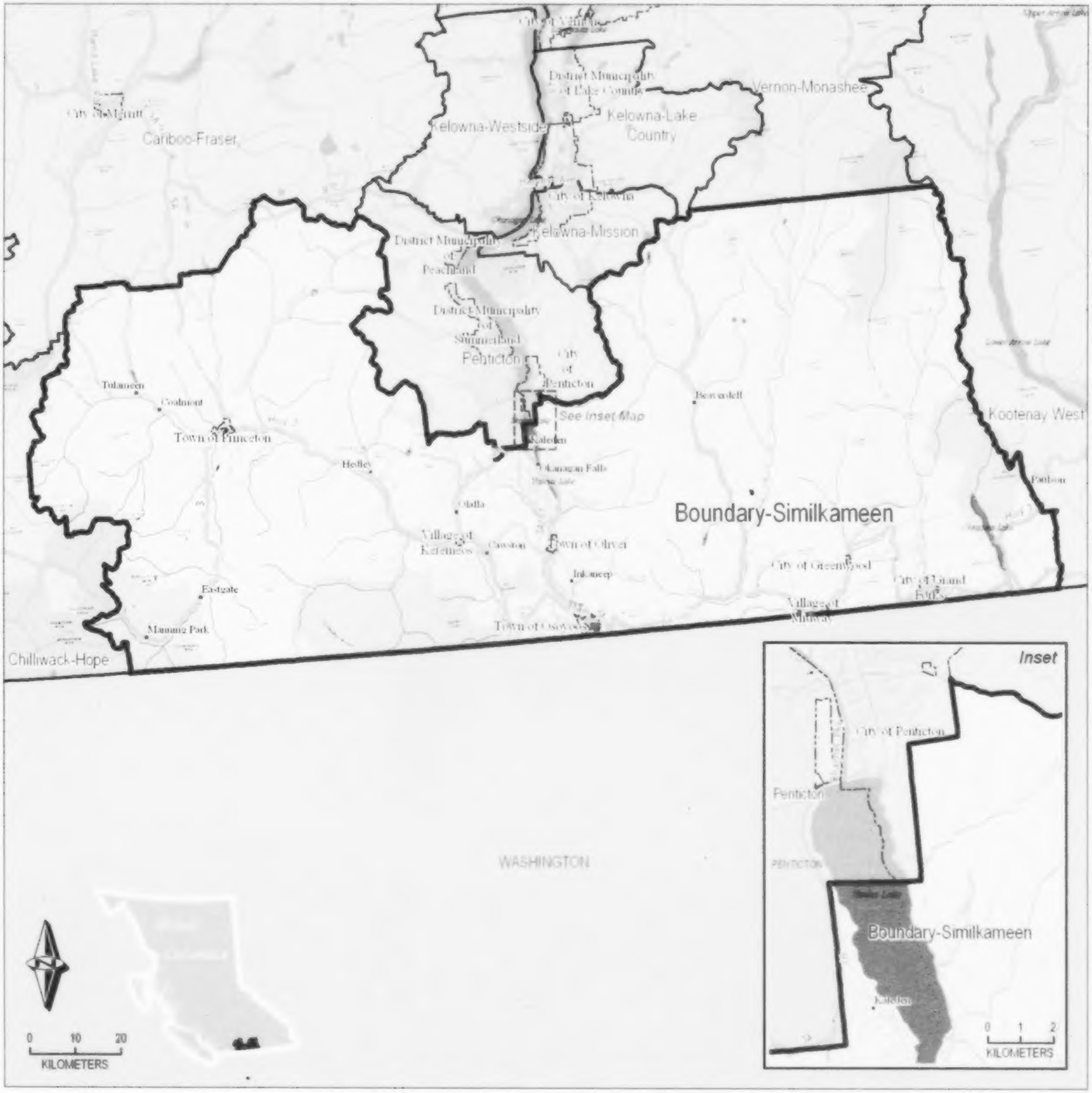
Region: Okanagan – Proposed Kelowna-Westside Electoral District

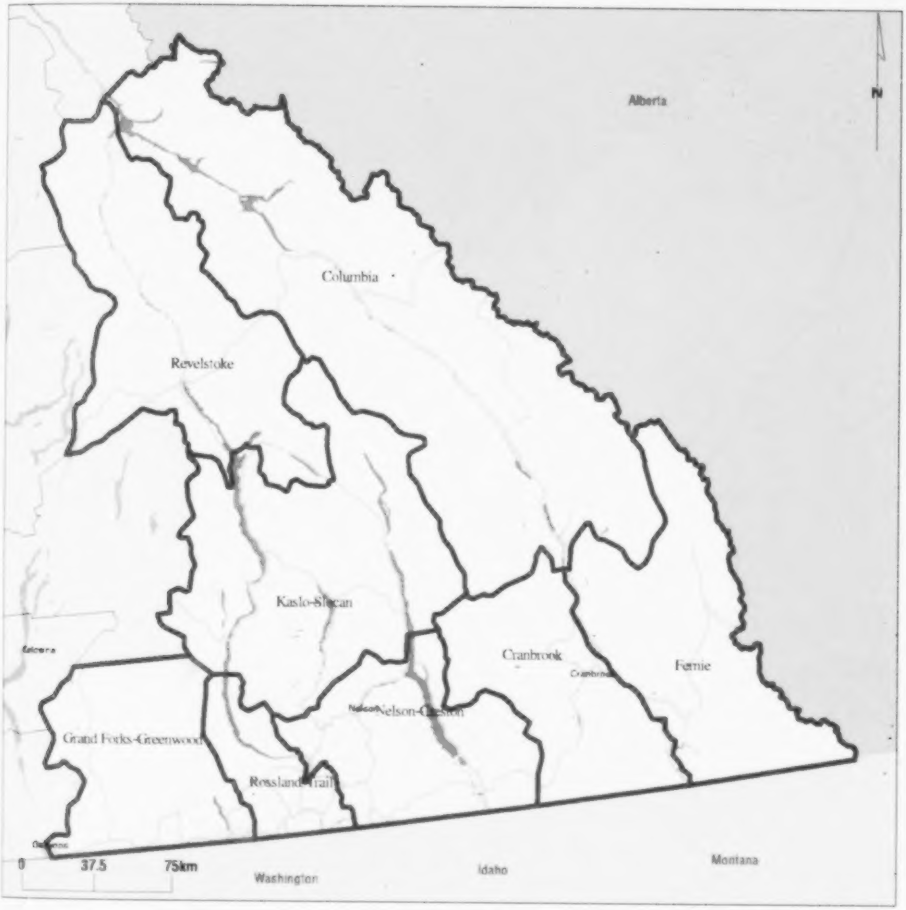

MTN
Shuswap
Cariboo-Fraser
British Columbia
Killiney Beach
Ewing
Vernon-Monashee
Fintry
Carrs Landing
Oyama
District Municipality of Lake Country
TERRACE MTN
Nahun
Caesars
Price Beach
Woodsdale
Okanagan Centre
Winfield
Kelowna-Lake Country
DUCK LAKE
Kelowna-Westside
WHITEROCKS MTN
Wilsons Landing
BLUE GROUSE MTN
McKinley Landing
Ellison
Traders Cove
MT GOTTFRIEDSON
See Inset Map
Westside
Lakeview Heights
City of Kelowna
MISSION CREEK
Glenrosa
Westbank
Gellatly
Okanagan Lake
Kelowna-Mission
Penticton
Boundary-Similkameen
District Municipality of Peachland
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
Inset
Kelowna-Lake Country
Trench Pl
High Rd
Glenmore Dr
City of Kelowna
Kelowna-Westside
Okanagan Lake
Richter St
Harvey Ave
Springfield Rd
Pandosy St
Gordon Dr
Kelowna-Mission
0 500 1,000
METERS

Region: Okanagan – Proposed Penticton Electoral District


Cariboo-Fraser
Kelowna-Lake Country
Westside
Harvey Ave
British Columbia
Kelowna-Westside
Lakeview Heights
City of Kelowna
Kelowna-Mission
Trepanier
District Municipality of Peachland
OKANAGAN LAKE
MT KATHLEEN
OKANAGAN MTN
LITTLE WHITE MTN
GREYBACK MTN
District Municipality of Summerland
Naramata
Penticton
MT NKWALA
City of Penticton
PENTICTON
Ellis Cr
MT CHRISTIE
Shatford
Kaleden
Boundary-Similkameen
Nickle Plate L
Marron Valley
Okanagan Falls
0 2.5 5
KILOMETERS

Region: Okanagan – Proposed Boundary-Similkameen Electoral District


City of Vernon
District Municipality of Lake Country
Vernon-Monashee
City of Merritt
Cariboo-Fraser
Kelowna-Westside
Kelowna-Lake Country
City of Kelowna
Kelowna-Mission
District Municipality of Peachland
District Municipality of Summerland
Penticton
City of Penticton
See Inset Map
Tulameen
Coalmont
Town of Princeton
Hedley
Kaleden
Okanagan Falls
Beaverdell
Kootenay West
Fruitvale
Boundary-Similkameen
Olalla
Village of Keremeos
Cawston
Town of Oliver
City of Greenwood
City of Grand Forks
Inkaneep
Eastgate
Village of Midway
Manning Park
Town of Osoyoos
Chilliwack-Hope
WASHINGTON
Inset
City of Penticton
Penticton
PENTICTON
Skaha Lake
Boundary-Similkameen
Kaleden
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
N
0 10 20
KILOMETERS


Alberta
N
Columbia
Revelstoke
Kaslo-Slocan
Cranbrook
Cranbrook
Fernie
Kelowna
Nelson
Nelson-Creston
Grand Forks-Greenwood
Rossland-Trail
Osoyoos
0
37.5
75km
Washington
Idaho
Montana

Kootenays, Map 1

F. The Columbia-Kootenay

1. Evolution of the Columbia-Kootenay electoral districts

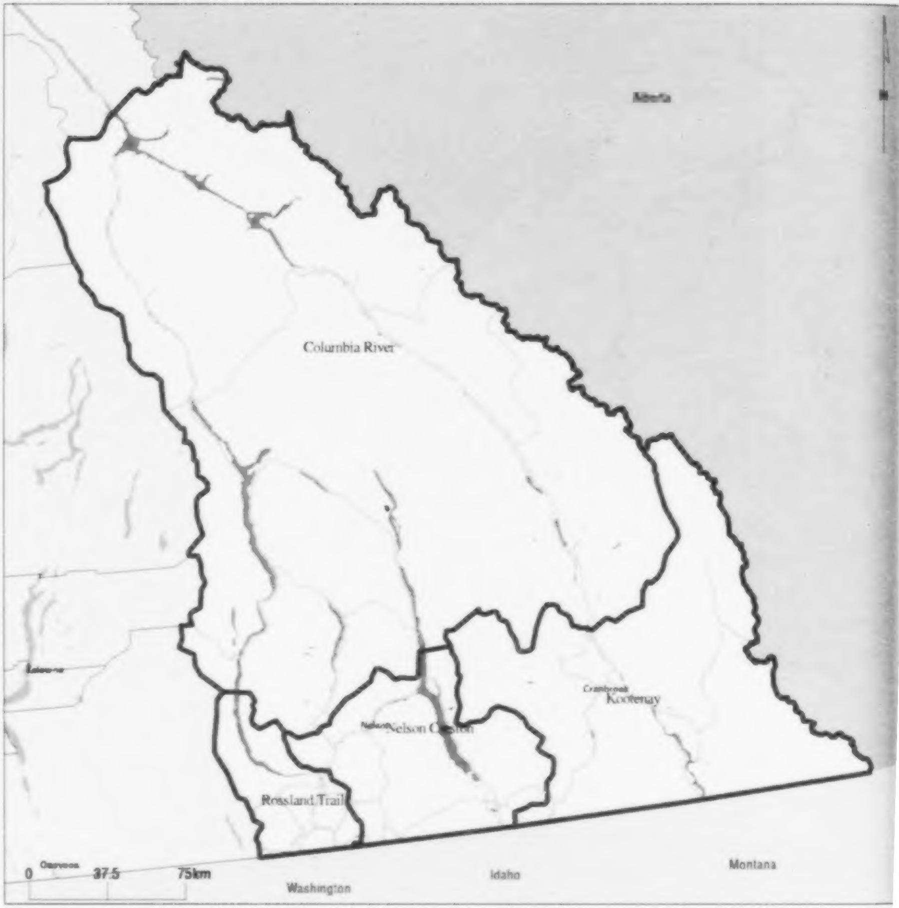
Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, there were eight electoral districts in the geographical area we describe as the Columbia-Kootenay (see Kootenays, Map 1). Moving from east to west, they were:

- Columbia
- Fernie
- Cranbrook
- Revelstoke
- Kaslo-Slocan
- Nelson-Creston
- Rossland-Trail
- Grand Forks–Greenwood.

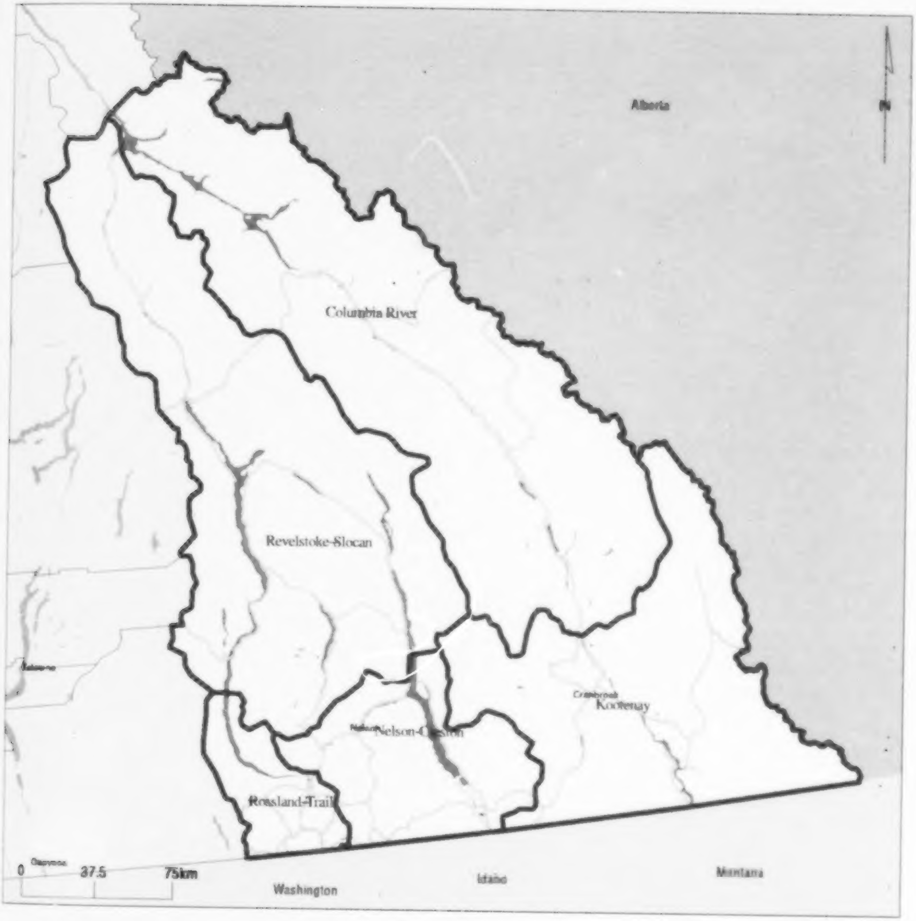
a. The Angus Commission (1966)

The Angus Commission decided to treat the Grand Forks–Greenwood area as part of the Okanagan rather than the Kootenays (where it stayed until 1999), which left seven electoral districts in the Kootenays. The commission was satisfied that, due to improved road access, the East and West Kootenays should be treated as one region. Although its population justified only three members in the Legislative Assembly, the commission decided that proper and effective representation required four members.

To reduce the number of electoral districts from seven to four (see Kootenays, Map 2), the commission combined the Cranbrook and Fernie electoral districts into a new Kootenay district. It also combined the Columbia, Revelstoke and Kaslo-Slocan electoral districts into a new Columbia River district – although there was no great community of interest between the three portions of this new district (to be divided by Rogers Pass), improved transportation now made such a union reasonable.


Alberta
Columbia River
Kelowna
Cranbrook
Kootenay
Nelson
Nelson Creston
Rossland Trail
Osoyoos
0
37.5
75km
Washington
Idaho
Montana

Kootenays, Map 2


Alberta
N
Columbia River
Revelstoke-Slocan
Kelowna
Cranbrook
Kootenay
Nelson
Nelson-Creston
Rossland-Trail
Osoyoos
0
37.5
75km
Washington
Idaho
Montana

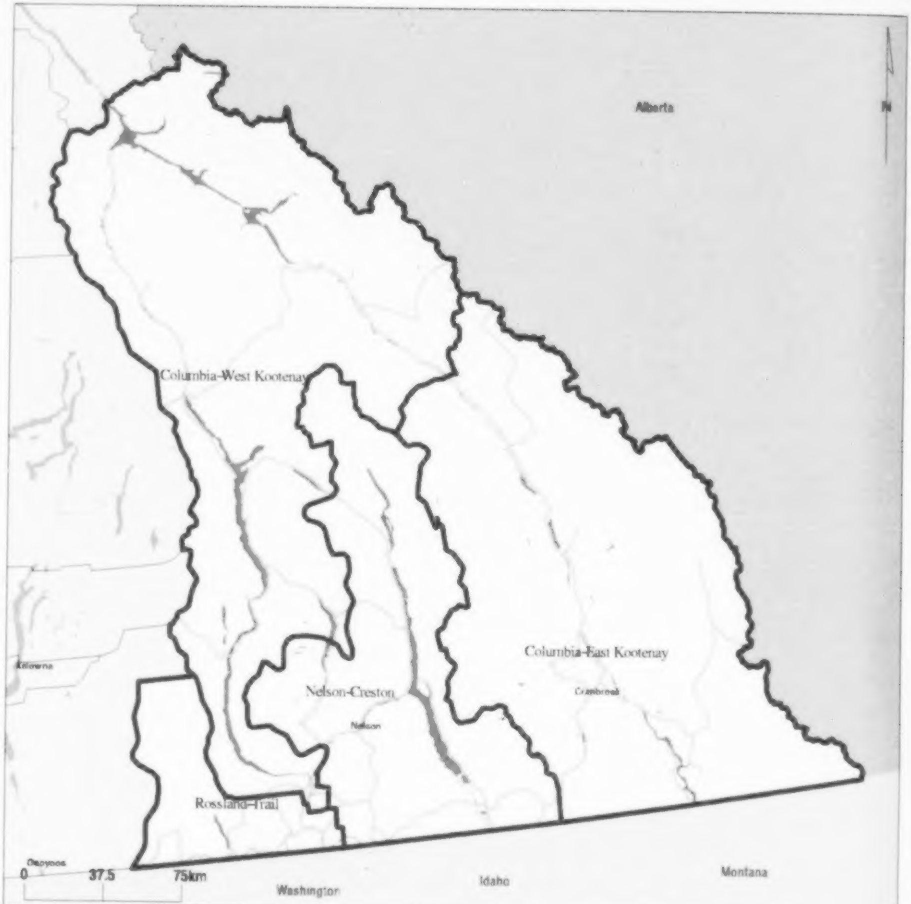
The Legislative Assembly adopted the commission's recommendations respecting the Rossland-Trail, Nelson-Creston and Kootenay electoral districts (see Kootenays, Map 3). However, it rejected the proposed new Columbia River district. Instead, it reverted back to a Columbia River district in the east, and a new Revelstoke-Slocan district in the west. As a result, the Kootenays region was reduced from seven electoral districts to five.

Kootenays, Map 3

b. The Norris Commission (1975)

The commission proposed that the Kootenays be reduced from five electoral districts to four, so that district populations there would more closely approximate the population of the central interior and Okanagan districts rather than the districts in the North. It did so by combining the northern part of Columbia River with the Revelstoke-Slocan district into a new Columbia–West Kootenay district (see Kootenays, Map 4).

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt any of these recommendations, retaining the five Kootenay electoral districts.

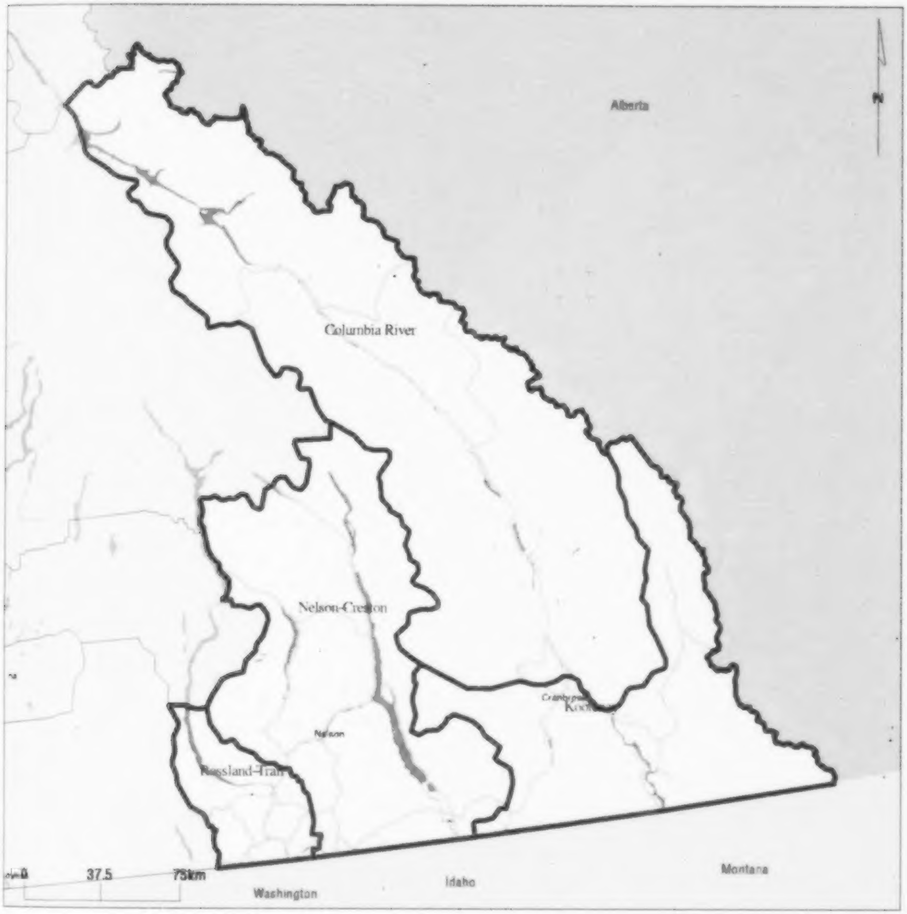

Alberta
N
Columbia-West Kootenay
Columbia-East Kootenay
Cranbrook
Nelson-Creston
Nelson
Kelowna
Rossland-Trail
Osoyoos
0
37.5
75km
Washington
Idaho
Montana

Kootenays, Map 4

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)

Judge Eckardt concluded that retention of Revelstoke-Slocan could not be justified – it had a population of 18,000, against a provincial electoral quotient of 44,000. In considering how to re-allocate the Revelstoke-Slocan territory, he was persuaded by the residents of Revelstoke that their communication ties were to the west (Shuswap), not to the east (Golden). Similarly, residents of Golden expressed the strong view that their ties were to the south, not to the west. Consequently, Judge Eckardt recommended (see Kootenays, Map 5) that Revelstoke-Slocan be eliminated, with the northern half being transferred into the Shuswap district, and the southern half being distributed between the North Okanagan and Nelson-Creston districts. He also proposed that Kimberley be transferred from Kootenay to Columbia River, to equalize the population.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Eckardt's recommendations, resulting in four electoral districts.

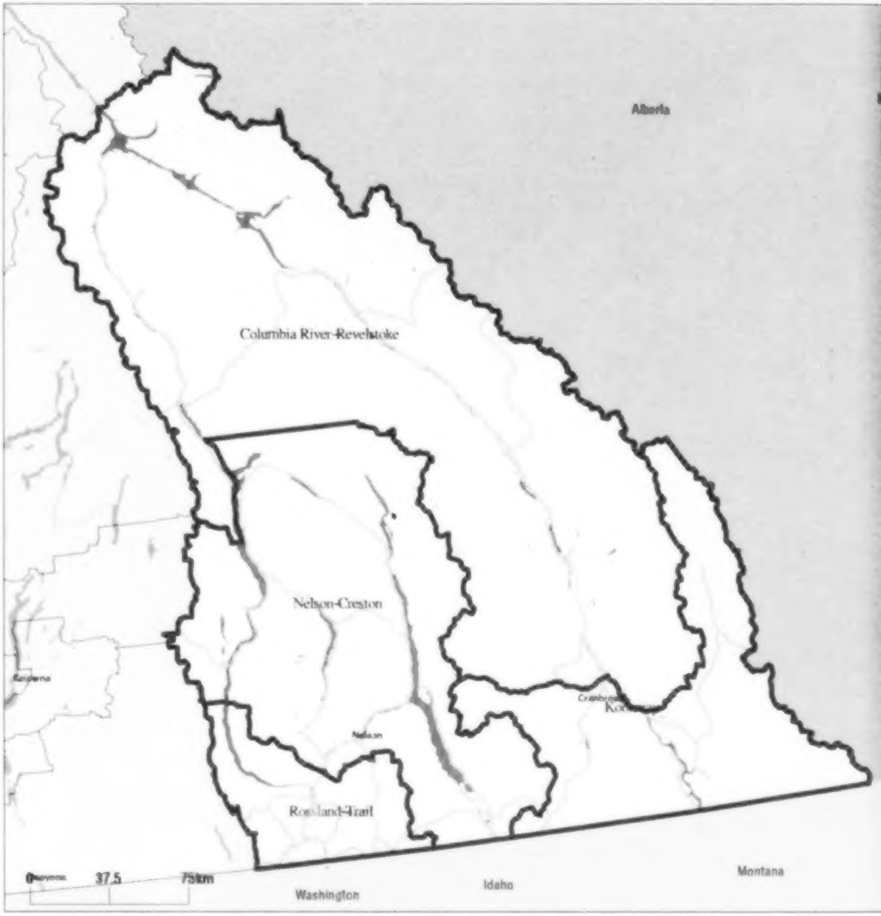


Kootenays, Map 5

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
None of the Warren Commission's recommendations affected the Kootenays.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected the Kootenays.

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
Judge Fisher decided to retain four electoral districts in the Kootenays. In his interim report, he transferred Revelstoke from Shuswap-Revelstoke into Columbia River (which he proposed renaming Columbia River–Revelstoke), having regard to the excellent highway connections between Revelstoke, Golden and Kimberley and the community interests in the area based on the forestry industry and tourism. This change would still leave Columbia River–Revelstoke with a smaller population than surrounding districts, but those other districts were smaller in area and therefore easier to service. He canvassed other possible solutions for the lack of population in this area, but rejected them because they would

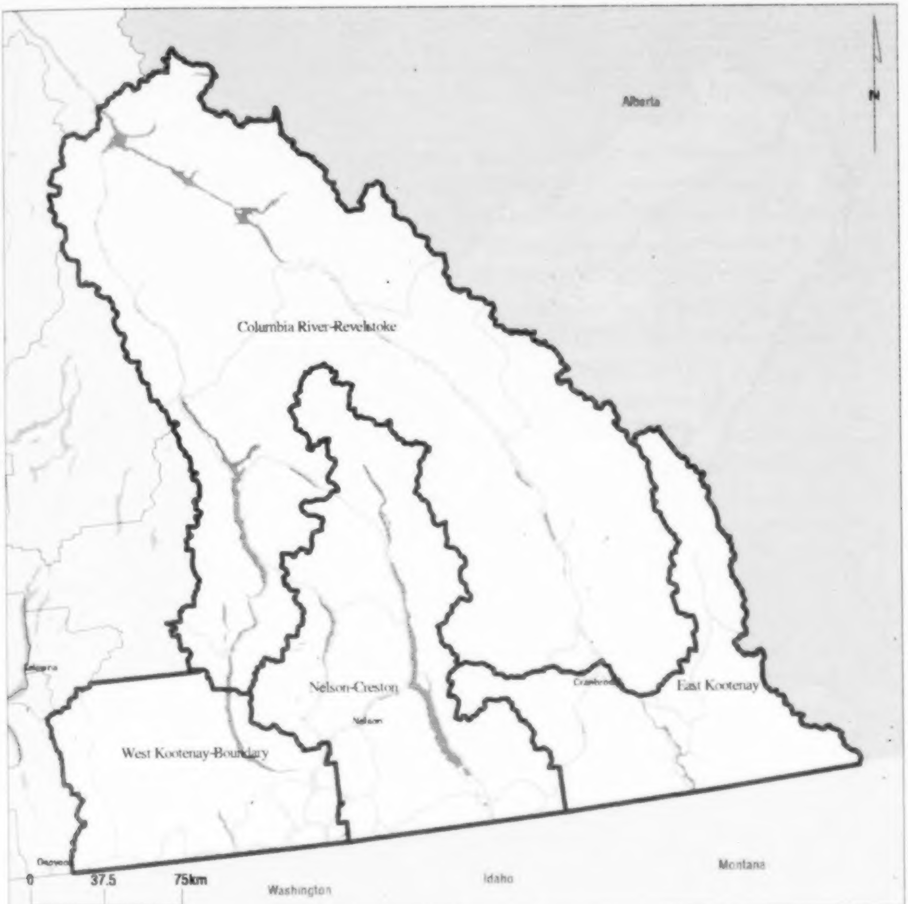


Kootenays, Map 6

have required wholesale changes to the boundaries of all adjacent districts and unacceptable disruption of links between communities in the area. He also proposed expanding Rossland-Trail westward, to include Grand Forks and Greenwood, but in his final report abandoned the idea.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations. (see Kootenays, Map 6).

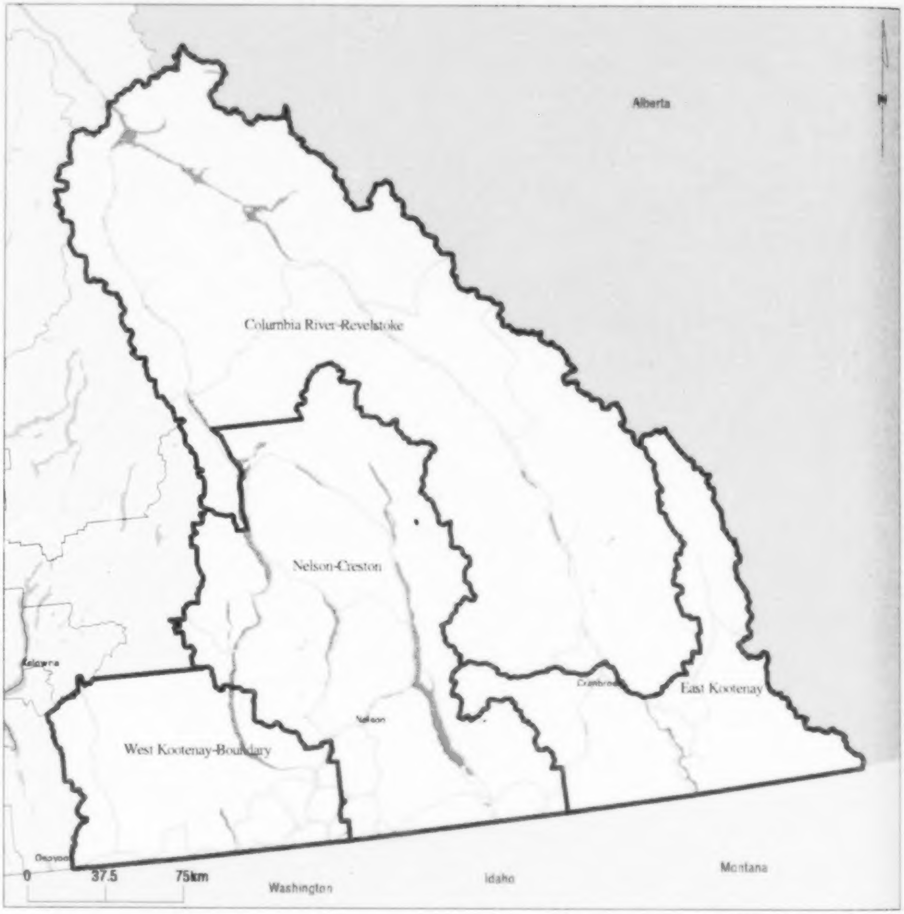
g. The Wood Commission (1999)
In its interim report (see Kootenays, Map 7), the Wood Commission recommended that, in order to bolster the Rossland-Trail district's population, and for geographical, economic and historical reasons, it should be expanded westward to include Grand Forks, Greenwood, Midway and Rock Creek. In addition, Salmo should be transferred into the Nelson-Creston electoral district. The commission also initially proposed that Columbia River–Revelstoke be enlarged by adding the communities along the shores of the Arrow Lakes, including Nakusp, Burton, Fauquier, Needles and Edgewood.


Alberta
N
Columbia River-Revelstoke
Nelson-Creston
Nelson
Cranbrook
East Kootenay
West Kootenay-Boundary
0
37.5
75km
Washington
Idaho
Montana

Kootenays, Map 7

In its final report, the commission abandoned the idea of enlarging Columbia River–Revelstoke (see Kootenays, Map 8). People from those communities persuaded the commission that they had worked long and hard to develop connections with the Kootenay communities to the south. All government services and trading patterns tied the Arrow Lakes to the south, with Nelson and Castlegar, rather than with Revelstoke to the north. Eliminating these communities would leave Columbia River–Revelstoke with a deviation of minus 27.8 percent. Having committed itself to preserving regional representation, and in recognition of the electoral district's size, its limited transportation facilities (which, particularly in winter months, can leave pockets of population isolated from the rest of the province) and its remoteness from Victoria, the commission was satisfied that this electoral district represented "very special circumstances."

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.


Alberta
N
Columbia River-Revelstoke
Nelson-Creston
Kelowna
Cranbrook
East Kootenay
Nelson
West Kootenay-Boundary
Osoyoos
0
37.5
75km
Washington
Idaho
Montana

Kootenays, Map 8

2. *Our analysis of the Columbia-Kootenay electoral districts*

The geographical area that we define as the Columbia-Kootenay region currently has four electoral districts: Columbia River–Revelstoke, East Kootenay, Nelson-Creston and West Kootenay–Boundary (see map, page 144). These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 13):

TABLE 13: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN COLUMBIA-KOOTENAY

Electoral District	1996 deviation*	2006 deviation**
Columbia River–Revelstoke	-27.8%	-37%
East Kootenay	-18.9%	-28.1%
Nelson-Creston	-4.3%	-16.4%
West Kootenay–Boundary	-2.5%	-17.1%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

As discussed earlier in this part (Okanagan), we have decided that the Boundary communities of Bridesville, Rock Creek, Midway, Greenwood, Grand Forks, Big White and Christina Lake should be part of our proposed Boundary-Similkameen electoral district, whose eastern boundary will be the Blueberry–Paulson Summit. This means that the total population of the Columbia-Kootenay region is reduced by 12,127 to 144,827. If we take that population and create four electoral districts with equal population, each one has a deviation of minus 30.5 percent (based on 79 electoral districts). With the maximum number of 85 electoral districts, the deviation would be minus 25.2 percent. Creating three electoral districts with equal population yields a deviation of minus 7.3 percent based on 79 electoral districts or minus 4.9 percent based on 81.

We are faced with a large and sparsely populated electoral district (Columbia River–Revelstoke) with a current deviation of minus 37 percent (based on 79 districts), significantly outside the statutory range of plus or minus 25 percent. At the same time, the other three Kootenay electoral districts (with a reduced population after moving the Boundary-Similkameen boundary eastward to the Blueberry–Paulson Summit) have deviations averaging minus 26.5 percent, based on 81 electoral districts. We do not think that such high negative deviations for these three relatively compact and accessible districts can be justified. However, if we increased the population of these three districts (by encroaching into Columbia River–Revelstoke) so that their average deviation approximated the 1996 average of minus 8.6 percent, based on 81 electoral districts, it would result in Columbia River–Revelstoke's population being reduced to approximately 5,600 – far too low for an electoral district in any area of the province.

Our conclusion is that the population of the Columbia-Kootenay region can no longer support four electoral districts – it must be reduced to three.

In developing a three-district configuration for the Columbia-Kootenay, we applied certain criteria that we thought appropriate for this area. We consider municipalities to be an important indicator of community interests and, for that reason, have sought to avoid splitting any municipality between two electoral districts. Similarly, communities situated physically close to each other should, in our view, be included in the same electoral district whenever possible.

Beginning in the east, the current Columbia River–Revelstoke electoral district stretches from Revelstoke in the northwest to Kimberley in the southeast, but does not include Kimberley's close neighbour Cranbrook. It has a deviation of minus 37 percent based on 79 electoral districts, well outside the statutory limit.

In our view, in order to increase this district's population to a more justifiable negative deviation, the solution would be to exclude Kimberley and to extend its southern boundary farther southeast, to include the small Elk River communities of Fernie (pop. 4,217), Sparwood (pop. 3,618) and Elkford (pop. 2,463), (see map of proposed Kootenay East electoral district page 147). Several benefits flow from this configuration – it keeps within one electoral district all the smaller Columbia River and Rocky Mountain Trench communities, and allows for the adjoining cities of Kimberley and Cranbrook to be in the same adjoining electoral district to the west. Our proposed Kootenay East electoral district will have a deviation of minus 21.3 percent.

Moving westward, we needed to create two electoral districts in the remaining Kootenays area. Ideally they should have similar deviations (about plus 3 percent each), but geography and demography made that an unattainable goal. Beginning at the western boundary of this area (the Blueberry–Paulson Summit), we are proposing a westerly electoral district (Kootenay West) that would include Rossland, Trail, Montrose and Fruitvale in the south, and Castlegar, Nelson and Nakusp farther north. It would extend northward to just south of Galena Bay. The eastern boundary would follow the height of land between New Denver and Kaslo (see map of proposed Kootenay West electoral district page 146). It would have a deviation of plus 6.4 percent.

The more easterly electoral district, which we propose be named Kootenay South, would include Kaslo, Salmo, Creston, Cranbrook and Kimberley (see map of proposed Kootenay South electoral district page 148). Its deviation would be plus 0.1 percent, close to parity.

We considered a different boundary line between Kootenay West and Kootenay South, so that the deviations would be closer to plus 3 percent each. However, that could only be accomplished by dividing Nelson between both electoral districts, or by drawing the boundary between Montrose and Fruitvale. Neither alternative was acceptable to us – splitting small communities means violating long-standing community interests, and Montrose and Fruitvale have much stronger community interests with Trail than with Cranbrook.

We considered bringing the boundary between our proposed Kootenay West and Kootenay South electoral districts down Kootenay Lake and to the east of Salmo, so that communities such as Kaslo, Balfour and Salmo were included in the same electoral district as Nelson. However, that would have left our proposed Kootenay West district with a deviation of plus 20 percent which, in our view, would be unjustifiably high.

3. Conclusion

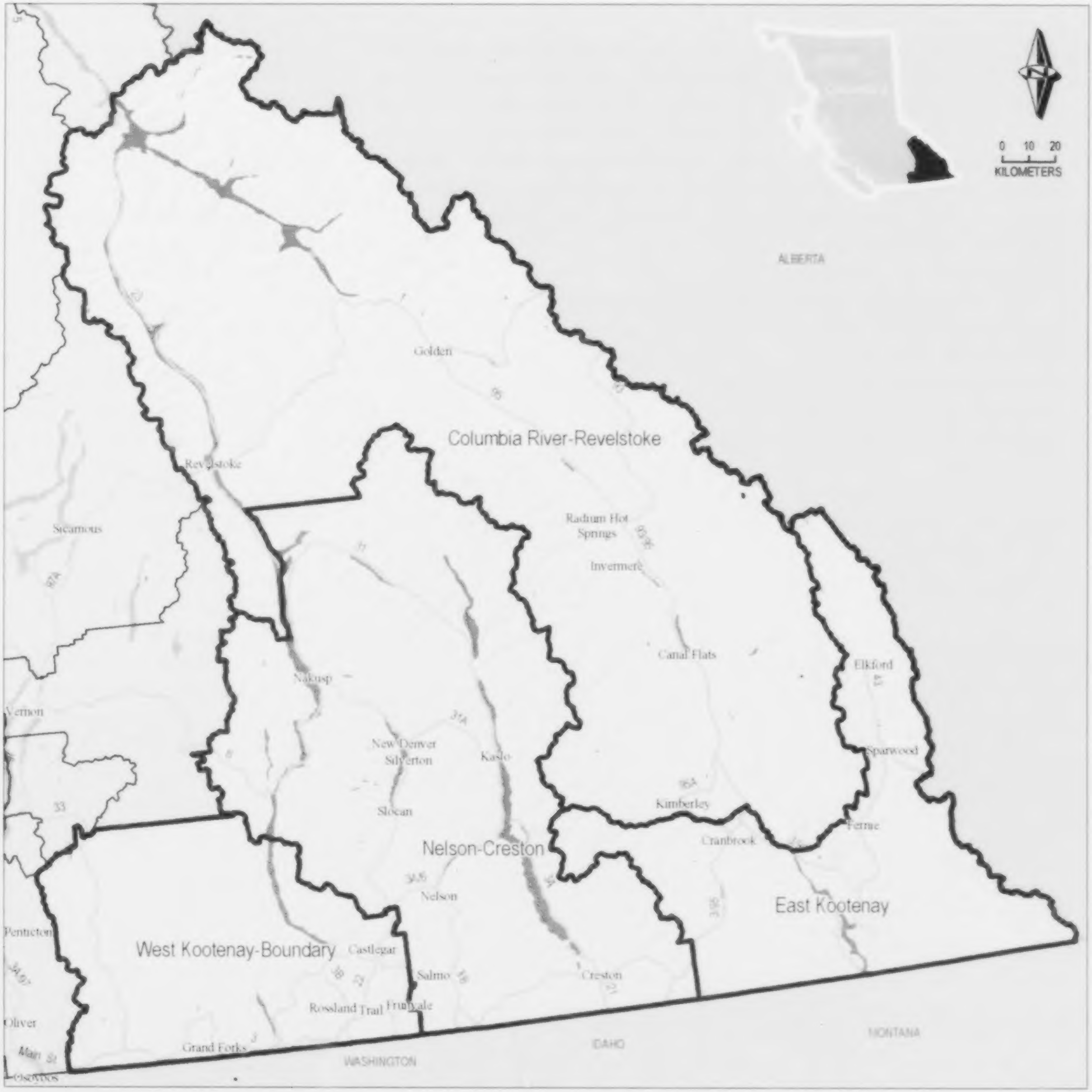
Accordingly, we propose that there be three electoral districts in the Columbia-Kootenay region, as follows:

[illegible]

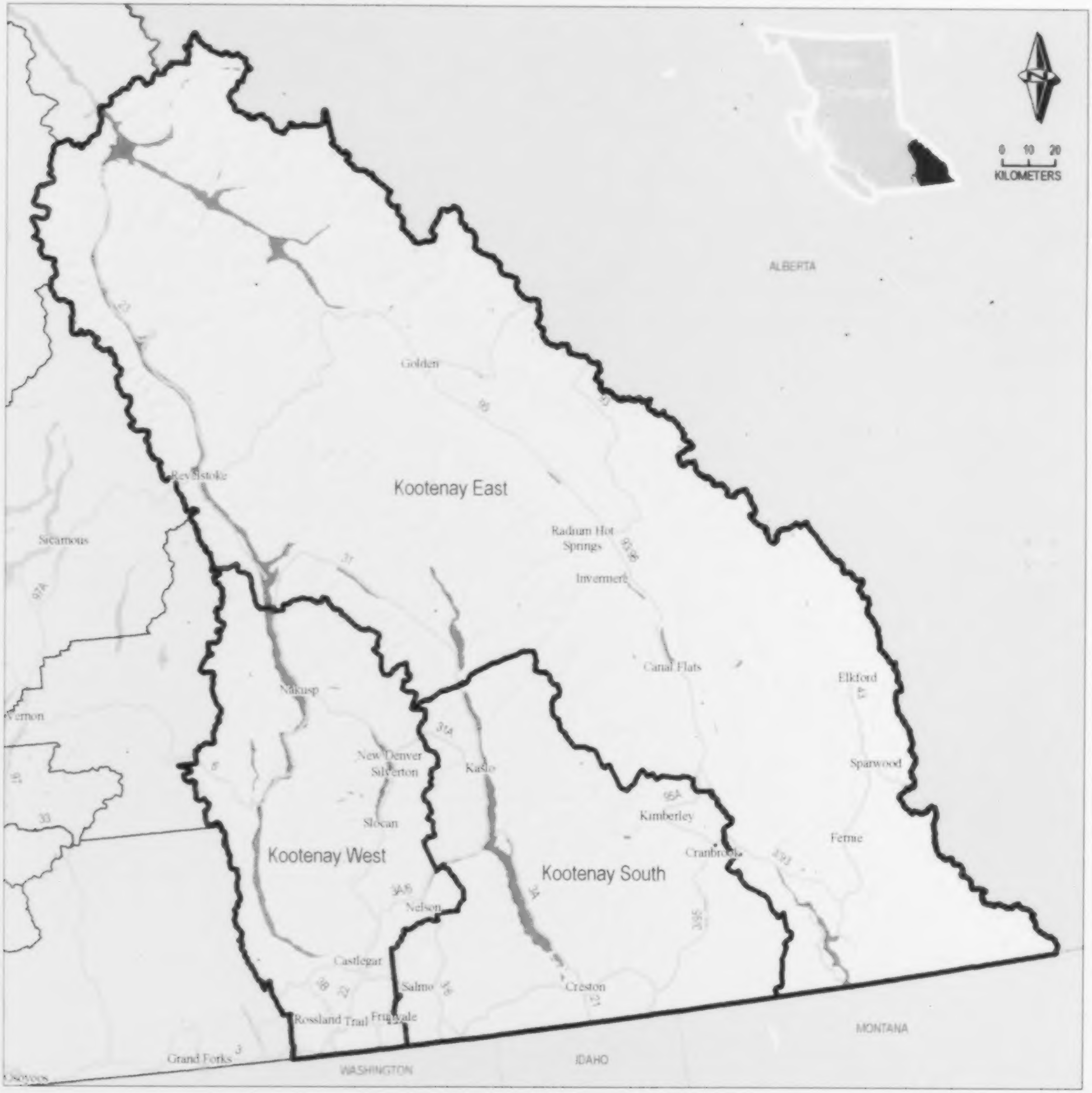
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Kootenay East	50,419	39,951	-21.3%
Kootenay South	13,870	50,851	+0.1%
Kootenay West	11,843	54,025	+6.4%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

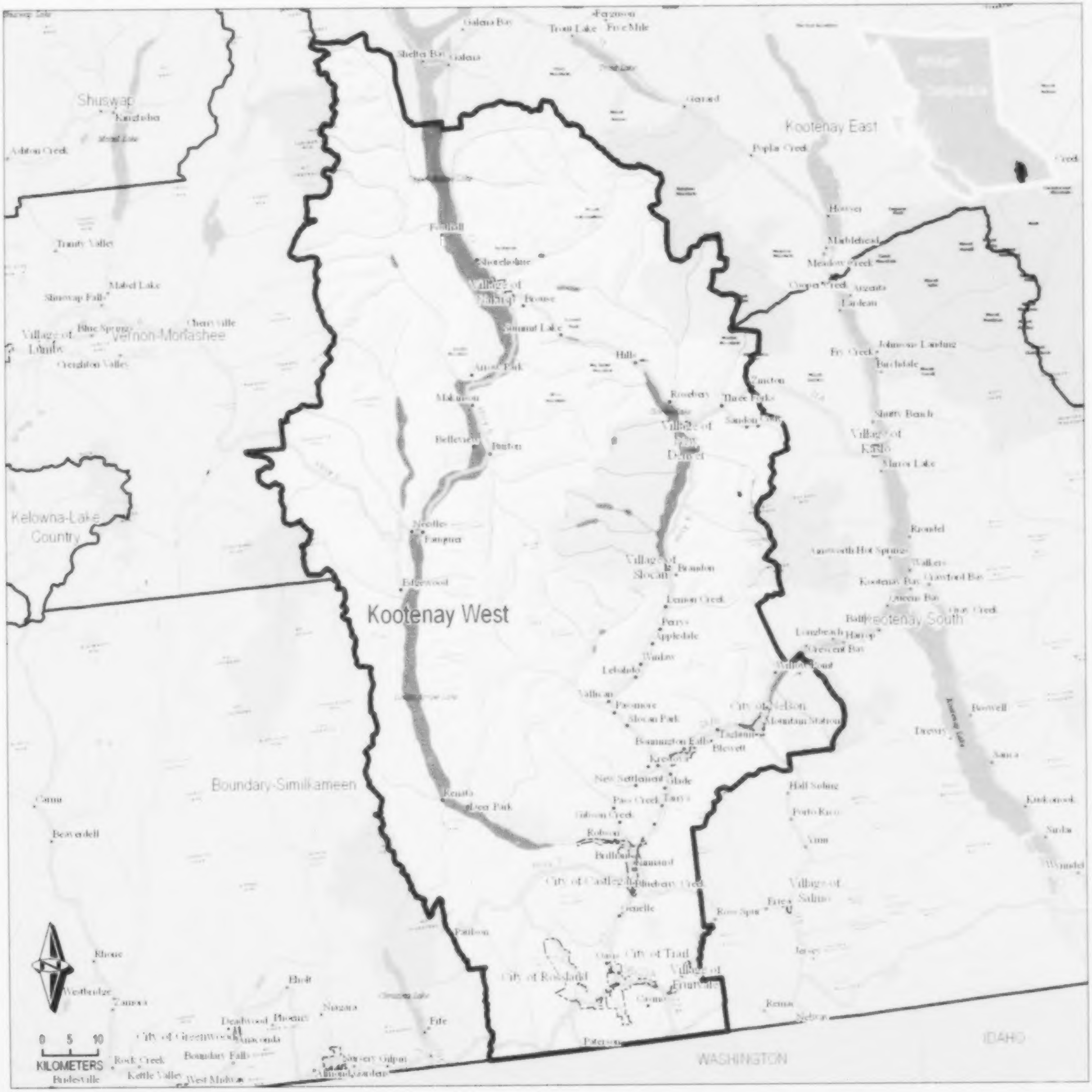
Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Current Electoral Districts for the Region


0 10 20
KILOMETERS
ALBERTA
Golden
Columbia River-Revelstoke
Revelstoke
Sicamous
Radium Hot Springs
Invermere
Canal Flats
Elkford
Vernon
Nakusp
New Denver
Silverton
Kaslo
Sparwood
Slocan
Kimberley
Fernie
Cranbrook
Nelson-Creston
Nelson
East Kootenay
Penticton
West Kootenay-Boundary
Castlegar
Salmo
Creston
Rossland
Trail
Fruitvale
Oliver
Grand Forks
Main St
Osoyoos
WASHINGTON
IDAHO
MONTANA

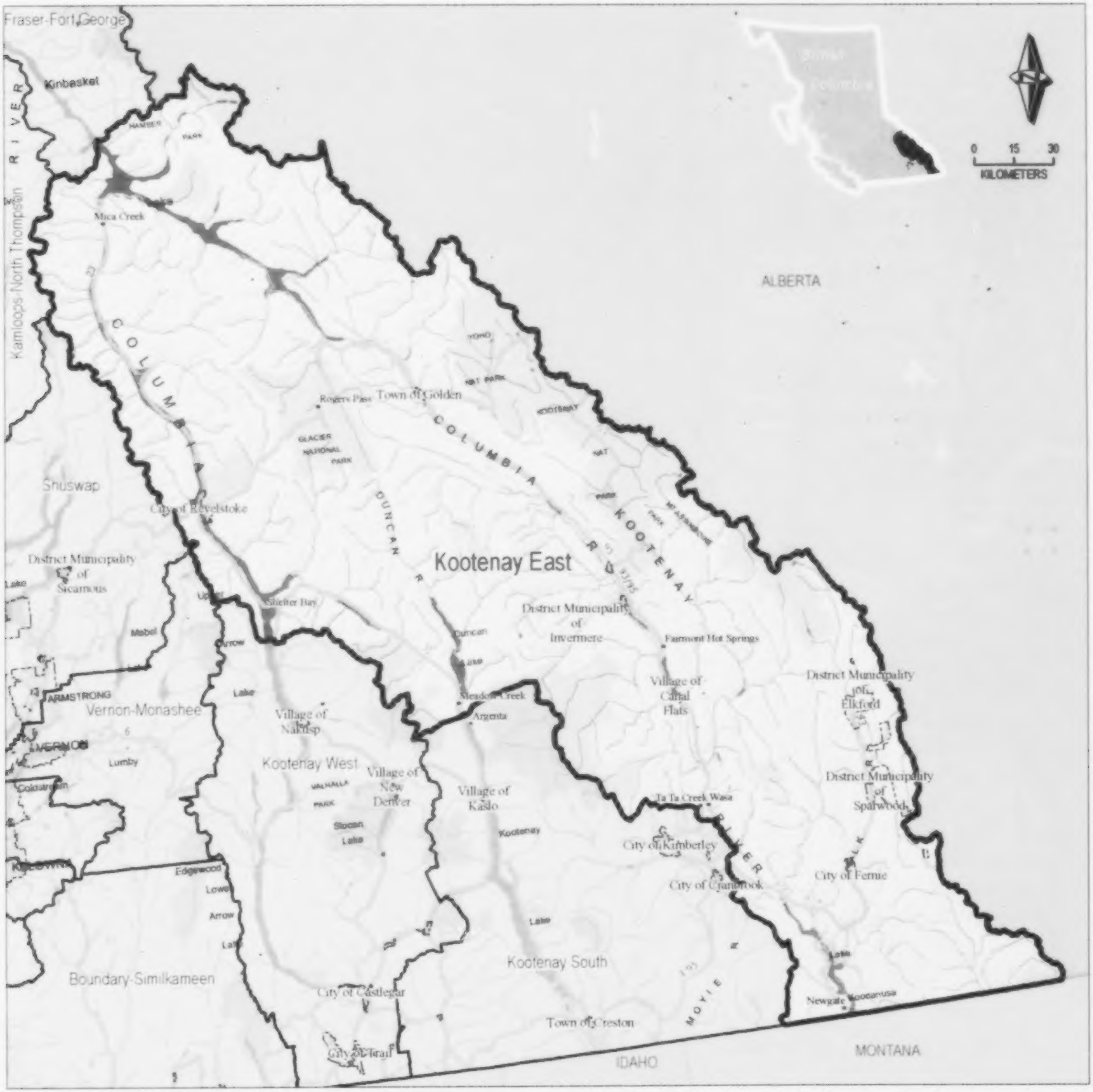
Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Electoral Districts for the Region


ALBERTA
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Golden
Revelstoke
Kootenay East
Sicamous
Radium Hot Springs
Invermere
Canal Flats
Elkford
Sparwood
Fernie
Vernon
Nakusp
New Denver
Silverton
Kaslo
Slocan
Kimberley
Cranbrook
Kootenay West
Kootenay South
Nelson
Castlegar
Salmo
Creston
Rossland
Trail
Fruitvale
Grand Forks
Osoyoos
WASHINGTON
IDAHO
MONTANA

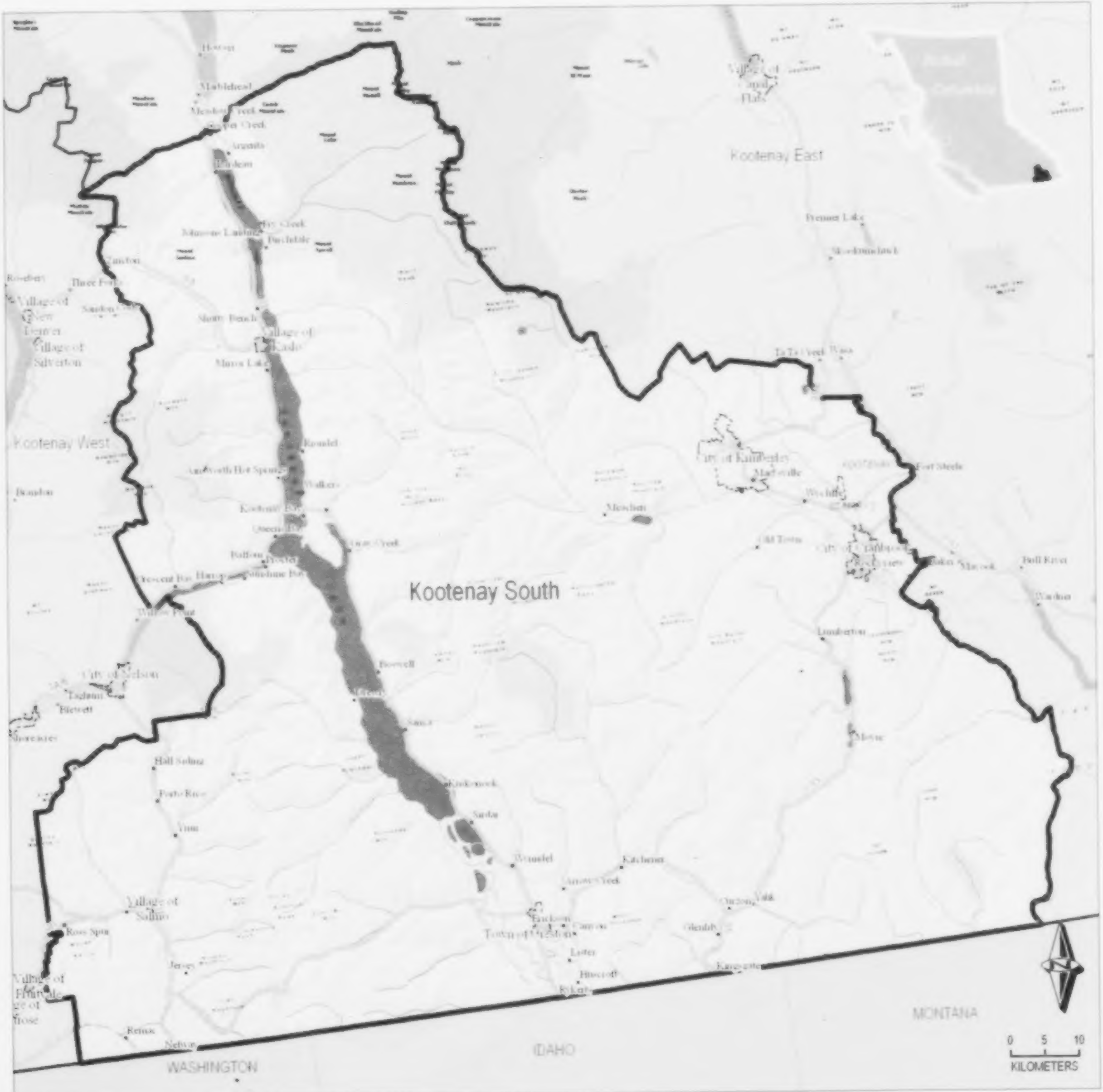
Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Kootenay West Electoral District

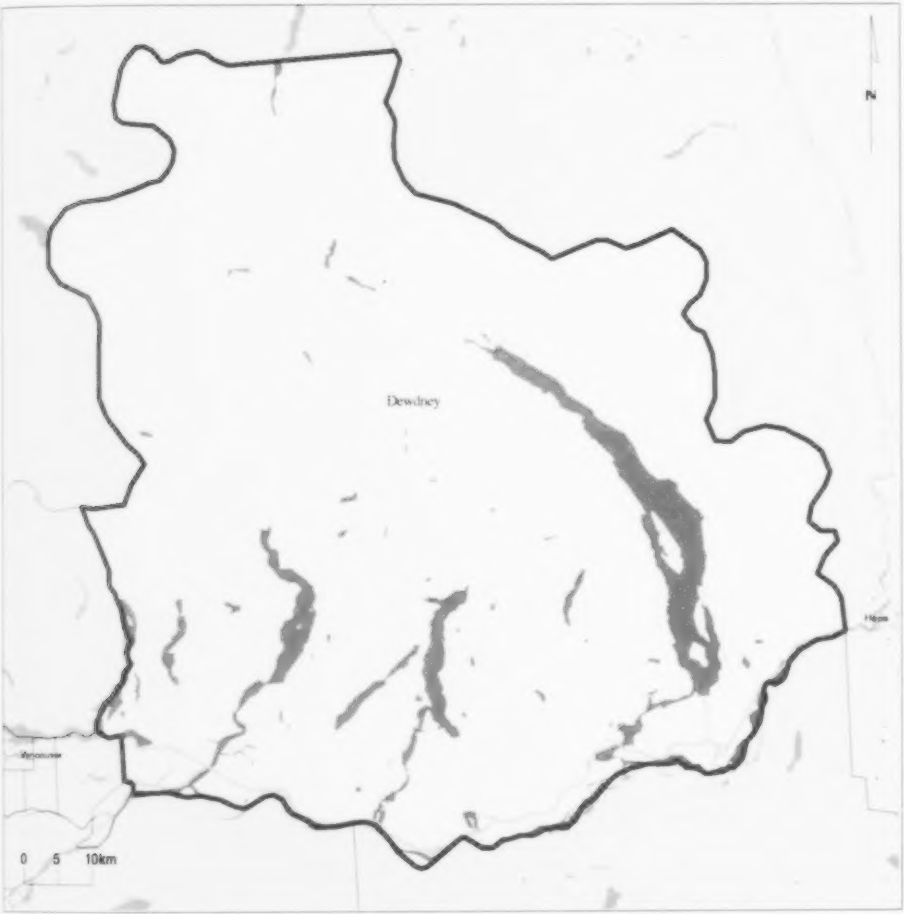

Kootenay West
Kootenay East
Kootenay South
Shuswap
Vernon-Monashee
Kelowna-Lake Country
Boundary-Similkameen
WASHINGTON
IDAHO
Galena Bay
Trout Lake
Ferguson
Five Mile
Shelter Bay
Galena
Gerrard
Poplar Creek
Howser
Marblehead
Meadow Creek
Argenta
Lardeau
Fry Creek
Johnsons Landing
Birchdale
Ashton Creek
Trinity Valley
Mabel Lake
Shuswap Falls
Village of Lumby
Blue Springs
Cherryville
Creighton Valley
Shelter Bay
Village of Nakusp
Summit Lake
Hills
Arrow Park
Makinson
Rosebery
Three Forks
Sandon
Zincton
Bellevue
Burton
Village of New Denver
Shutty Bench
Village of Kaslo
Mirror Lake
Needles
Fauquier
Edgewood
Village of Slocan
Brandon
Lemon Creek
Riondel
Ainsworth Hot Springs
Walkers
Kootenay Bay
Crawford Bay
Queens Bay
Gray Creek
Balfour
Harrop
Longbeach
Procter
Perrys
Appledale
Winlaw
Lebahdo
Willow Point
Vallican
Passmore
Slocan Park
City of Nelson
Mountain Station
Taghum
Bonnington Falls
Blewett
Boswell
Drewry
Sanca
Krestova
New Settlement
Glade
Pass Creek
Tarrys
Gibson Creek
Renata
Deer Park
Robson
Brilliant
Ootischenia
City of Castlegar
Blueberry Creek
Genelle
Hall Siding
Porto Rico
Ymir
Village of Salmo
Erie
Rosebud
Kuskonook
Sirdar
Wynndel
Carmi
Beaverdell
Paulson
Rhone
Westbridge
Zamora
Eholt
Niagara
Deadwood
Phoenix
Fife
City of Greenwood
Anaconda
Boundary Falls
Rock Creek
Kettle Valley
Bridesville
West Midway
Gilpin
Grand Forks
City of Rossland
City of Trail
Village of Fruitvale
Casino
Paterson
Remac
Nelway
Jersey
0 5 10
KILOMETERS

Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Kootenay East Electoral District


Fraser-Fort George
Kinbasket
RIVER
Kamloops-North Thompson
Mica Creek
COLUMBIA
Shuswap
City of Revelstoke
District Municipality of Sicamous
Lake
Mabel
Upper
Arrow
Lake
ARMSTRONG
Vernon-Monashee
VERNON
Lumby
Coldstream
Shelter Bay
Village of Nakusp
Kootenay West
Village of New Denver
VALHALLA PARK
Slocan Lake
Village of Kaslo
Kootenay
Lake
Rogers Pass
Town of Golden
GLACIER NATIONAL PARK
YOHO NAT PARK
KOOTENAY NAT PARK
COLUMBIA
DUNCAN R
Duncan
Lake
Meadow Creek
Argenta
Kootenay East
KOOTENAY R
District Municipality of Invermere
Fairmont Hot Springs
Village of Canal Flats
District Municipality of Elkford
District Municipality of Sparwood
Ta Ta Creek
Wasa
City of Kimberley
City of Cranbrook
City of Fernie
Edgewood
Lower
Arrow
Lake
Boundary-Similkameen
City of Castlegar
City of Trail
Kootenay South
Town of Creston
MOYIE
Lake
Newgate
Koocanusa
IDAHO
MONTANA
ALBERTA
British Columbia
0 15 30
KILOMETERS

Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Kootenay South Electoral District


Kootenay South
Kootenay East
Kootenay West
Village of Canal Flats
Village of Kaslo
Village of New Denver
Village of Silverton
City of Kimberley
City of Cranbrook
Fort Steele
City of Nelson
Village of Salmo
Town of Creston
Village of Fruitvale
Riondel
Gray Creek
Boswell
Sirdar
Wynndel
Kitchener
Yahk
Moyie
Ymir
Erickson
Lister
Rykerts
Kingsgate
Wardner
Mayook
MONTANA
IDAHO
WASHINGTON
0 5 10
KILOMETERS



Fraser Valley North, Map 1

G. The Fraser Valley

Historically, most Fraser Valley electoral districts were either exclusively north or south of the Fraser River. The one exception has been the most easterly Fraser Valley electoral district which has, between 1978 and 1988 and since 1999, straddled the river.

As we will discuss later in this section, we are recommending that two Fraser Valley electoral districts span the Fraser River. However, before doing so we will trace the evolution of electoral districts in this region. It will be simpler to understand this evolution if we discuss the districts north of the river first, and the electoral districts south of the river second.

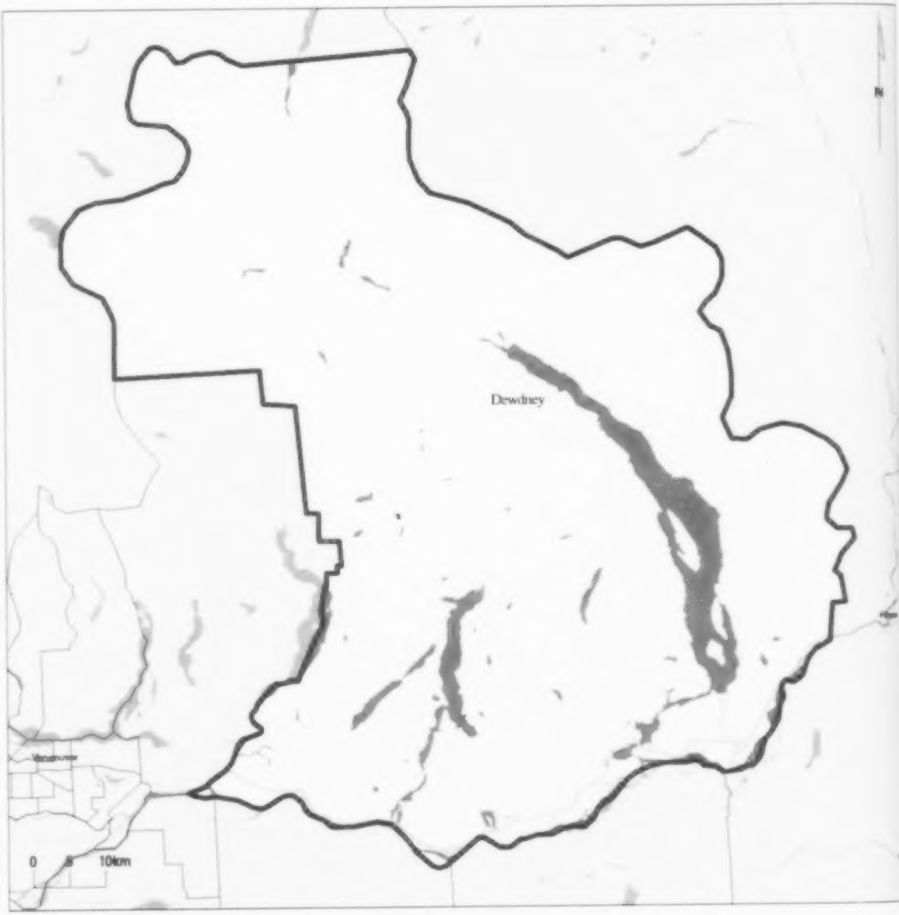
1. Evolution of the Fraser Valley electoral districts north of the river

Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission, there was one single-member electoral district north of the Fraser River, called Dewdney. It incorporated not only the area that we call today the Fraser Valley (Pitt River to Hope), but also included an area further west, between Indian Arm and the Pitt River. (see Fraser Valley North, Map 1).

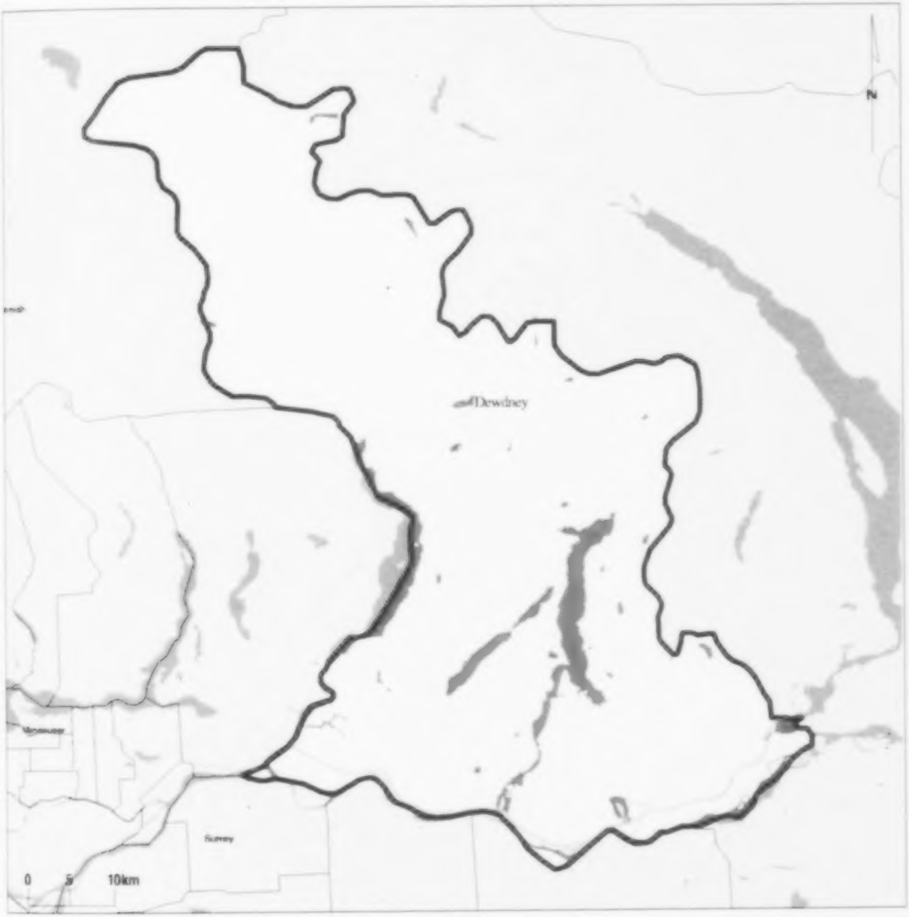
a. Angus Commission (1966)

The Angus Commission recommended that Dewdney be split into two single-member electoral districts (see Fraser Valley North, Map 2). The western portion, extending from Indian Arm and the eastern boundaries of the Burnaby and New Westminster electoral districts eastward to the Pitt River, would be named Coquitlam (to be discussed in the next section of this report – the Tri-Cities region). The eastern portion, extending from the Pitt River eastward almost to Hope, would retain the name Dewdney. A small area named Flood, just west of Hope, would be transferred to Yale.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations.



Fraser Valley North, Map 2



Fraser Valley North, Map 3

b. The Norris Commission (1975)

Due to population growth and under-representation in the legislature, the Norris Commission recommended that Dewdney be divided into two single-member electoral districts (see Fraser Valley North, Map 3). Dewdney would extend from the Pitt River eastward to Harrison Mills, and Chilliwack-Kent would extend eastward from there to Ruby Creek. This would include Agassiz, Kent and Harrison Hot Springs on the north side of the Fraser River and Chilliwack on the south side of the river.

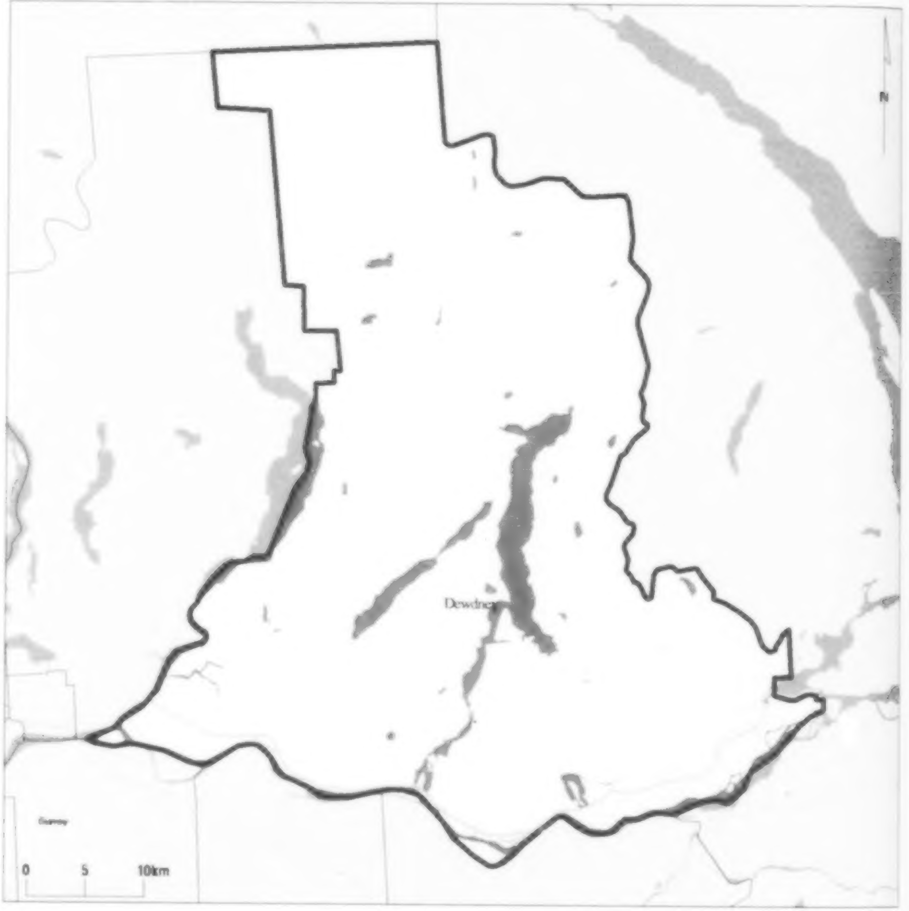
The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt recommended that Dewdney be divided into two electoral districts, similar to what the Norris Commission had recommended (see Fraser Valley North, Map 4). Dewdney would extend east from the Pitt River to Harrison Mills, and the Garibaldi Park area would be transferred into the revised West Vancouver–Howe Sound district. A new Chilliwack electoral district would extend eastward from there to the Ruby Creek area, including Chilliwack south of the river.

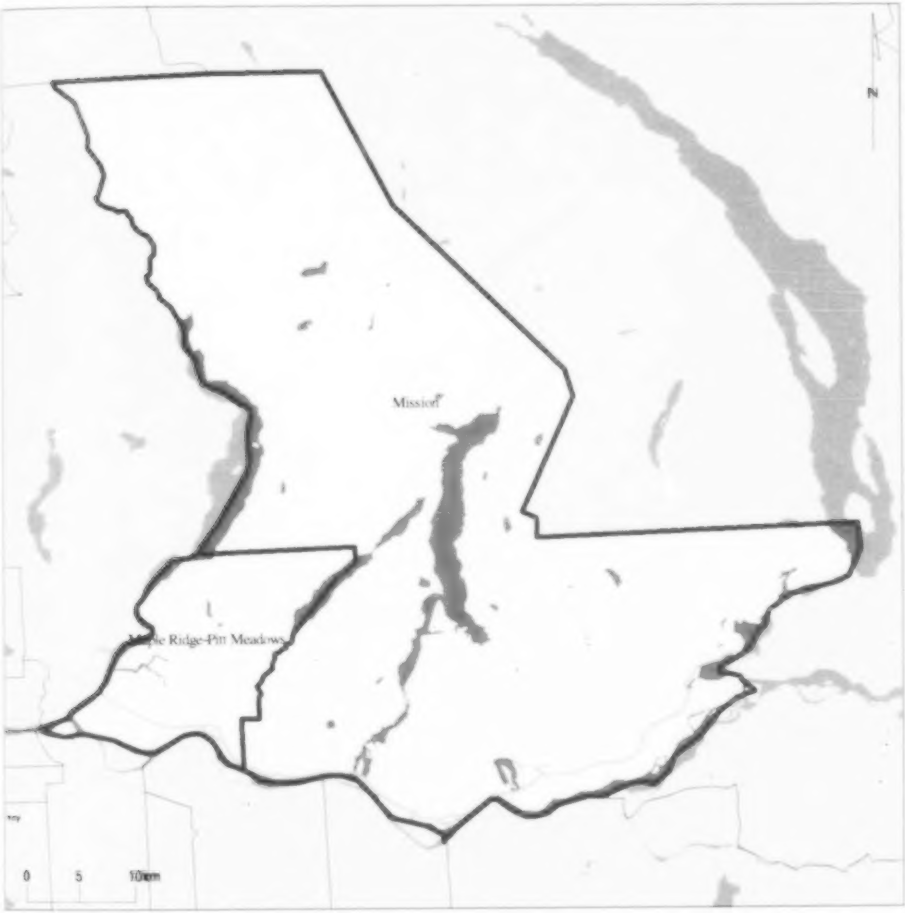
The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected these electoral districts.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
The McAdam Commission recommended that 11 single-member electoral districts, including Dewdney, become dual-member districts. The Legislative Assembly adopted the McAdam Commission's recommendation.



Fraser Valley North, Map 4

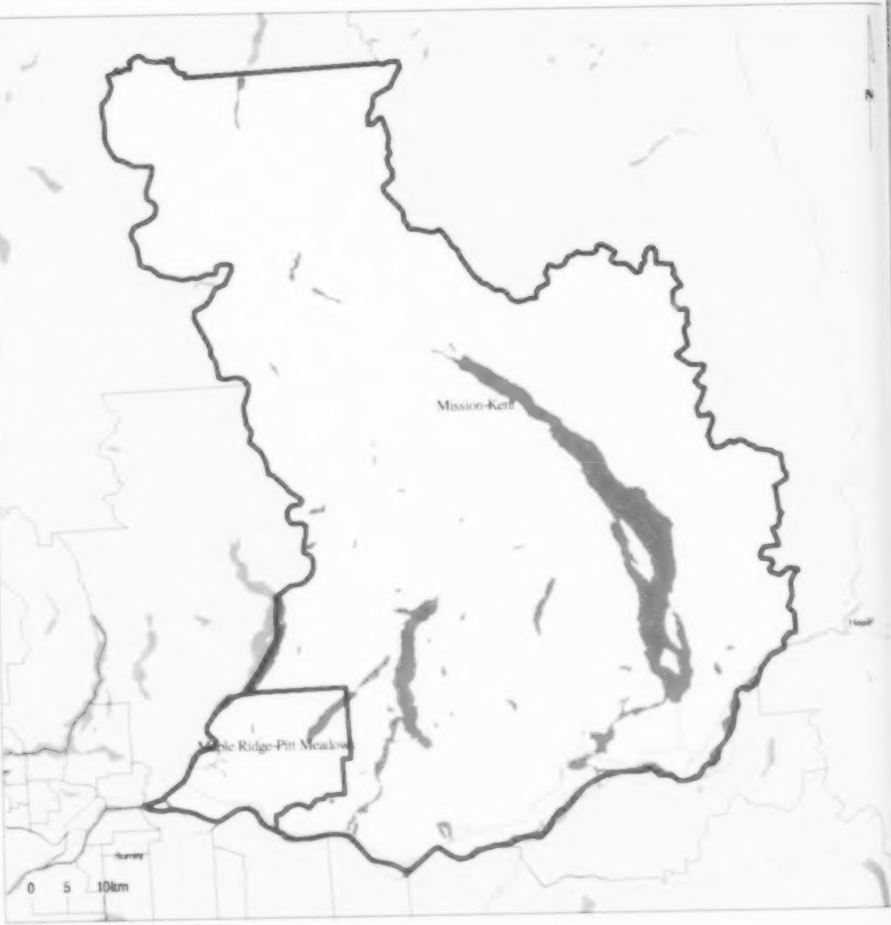


Fraser Valley North, Map 5

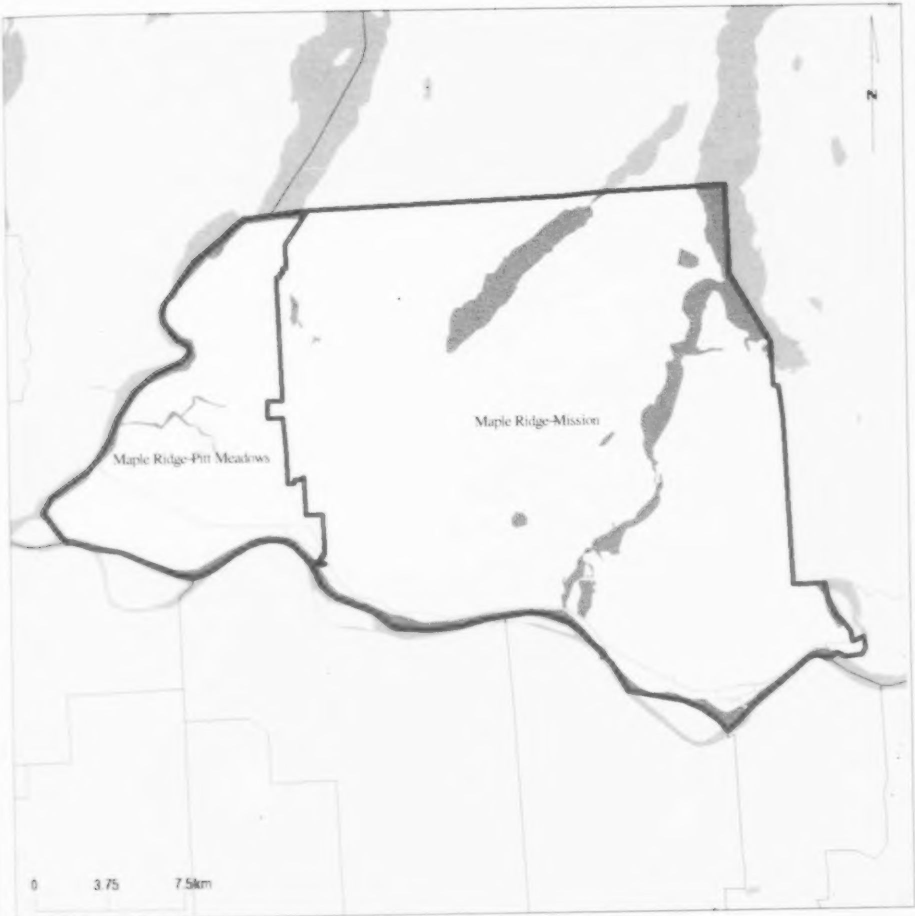
f. The Fisher Commission (1988)

In his interim report, Judge Fisher split the Dewdney electoral district into two districts (see Fraser Valley North, Map 5). Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows would extend from the Pitt River eastward to 241st Street and the Alouette River, and Mission would extend eastward from there to the Chilliwack-Kent boundary.

In his final report, Judge Fisher reduced the size of his proposed Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows district (incorporating virtually all of the Maple Ridge District Municipality into this district). He extended his proposed Mission district further east to include Agassiz, Kent and Harrison Hot Springs (to be renamed Mission-Kent), with the result that the district no longer spanned the Fraser River. The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Fisher's recommendations (see Fraser Valley North, Map 6).



Fraser Valley North, Map 6



Fraser Valley North, Map 7

g. The Wood Commission (1999)

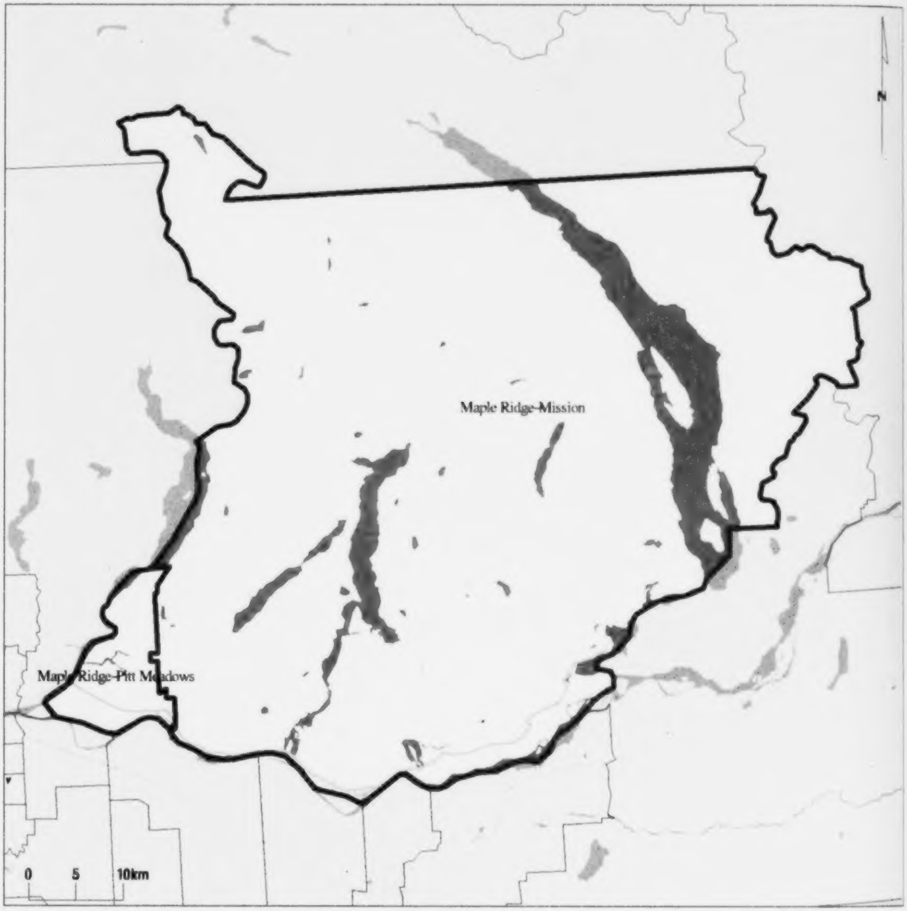
In its interim report (see Fraser Valley North, Map 7), the Wood Commission concluded that significant population growth in the Maple Ridge area necessitated an additional electoral district north of the river. Because Pitt Meadows did not have sufficient population for its own district, it was necessary to include it with the western portion of Maple Ridge. This meant splitting Maple Ridge between two electoral districts – with Pitt Meadows on the west and with Mission on the east. The commission stated, on p. 74:

> The close relationship between Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge suggests a community interest which continues to make a shared electoral district appropriate. We did hear that the Maple Ridge residents placed in the Mission-Kent electoral district during the last revision felt somewhat "orphaned" from their home community. However, we are hopeful that our division of Maple Ridge, which places more of the Maple Ridge population in a shared electoral district with Mission, would have more of a "Maple Ridge" character so as to leave residents feeling less isolated.

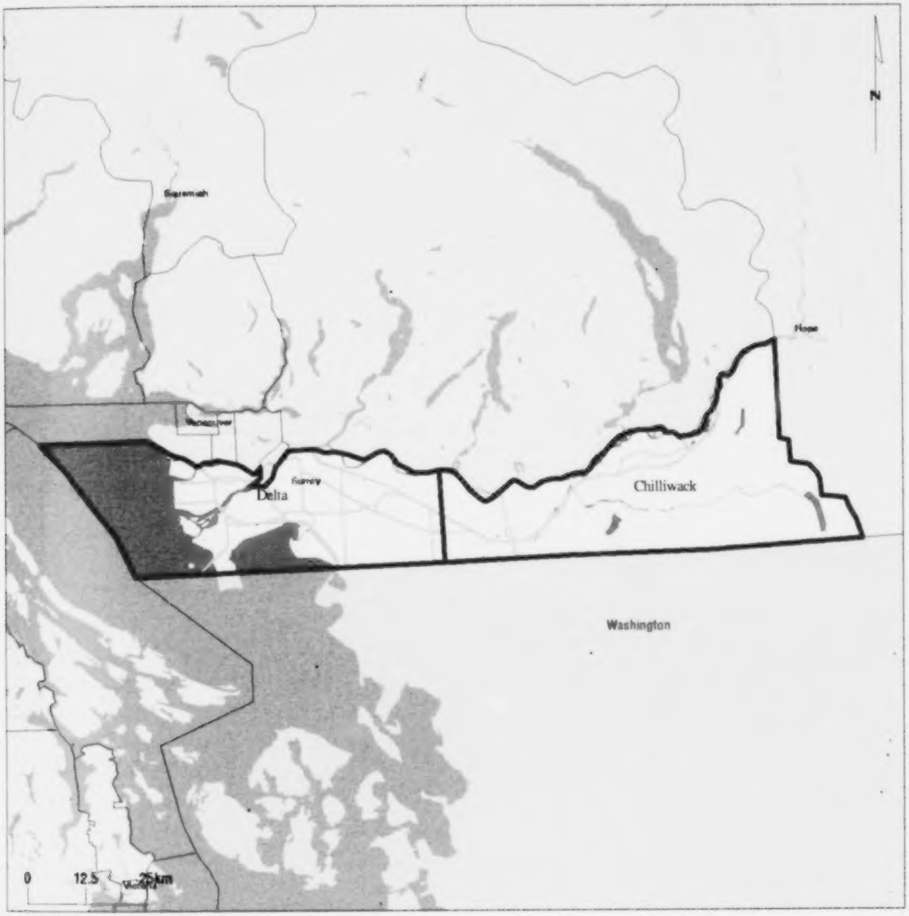
The commission recommended a new electoral district to the east (to be named Maple Ridge–Mission), which would include the eastern portion of Maple Ridge and the District of Mission.

In its final report (see Fraser Valley North, Map 8), the Wood Commission extended the Maple Ridge–Mission boundary further east to include several Highway 7 communities (Hatzic, Deroche, Lake Errock and Harrison Mills) which considered Mission to be their commercial, government and recreational centre. However, Kent, Agassiz and Harrison Hot Springs would remain part of Chilliwack-Kent, which spanned the Fraser River. The commission also transferred the small native communities between Harrison Lake and Lillooet Lake into the West Vancouver–Garibaldi electoral district, because all their ties and primary road connections were with the Pemberton and Mount Currie area to the north.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Wood Commission's recommendations.



Fraser Valley North, Map 8



Fraser Valley South, Map 1

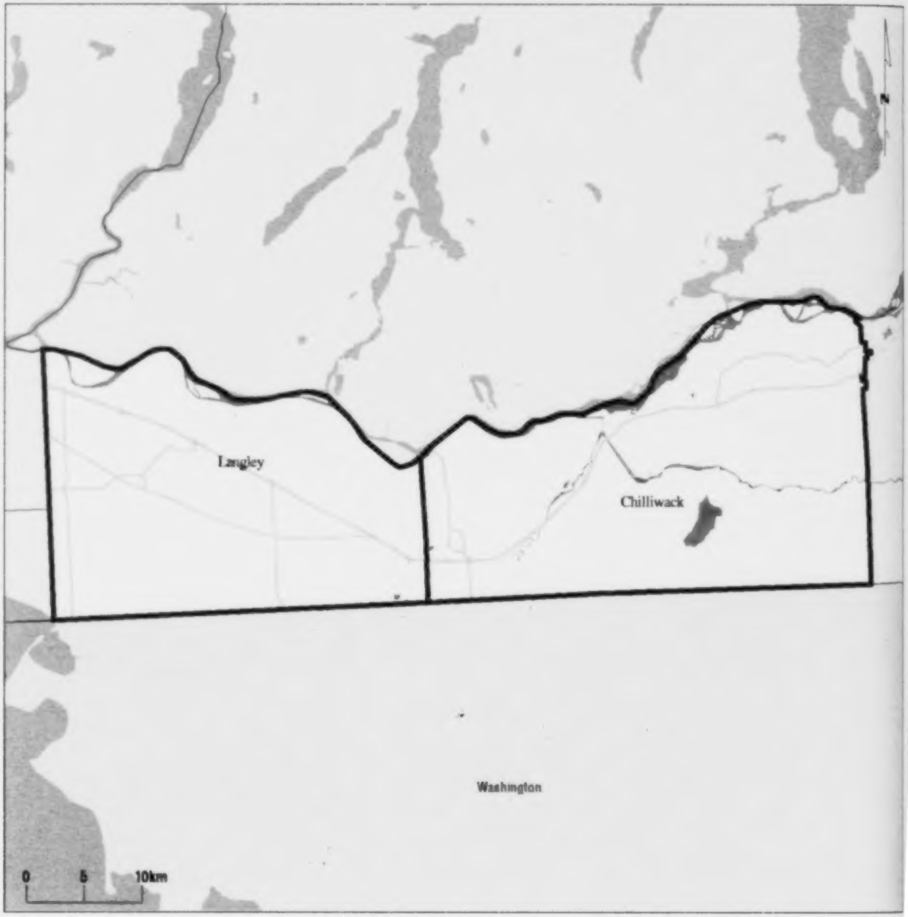
2. Evolution of the Fraser Valley electoral districts south of the river

Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission there were two Fraser Valley electoral districts south of the Fraser River (see Fraser Valley South, Map 1). The Chilliwack electoral district (a single-member riding) extended from the eastern boundary of Langley farther eastward almost to Hope. The Delta electoral district (a dual-member riding) included Langley and several municipalities farther west that we have not included as part of the Fraser Valley (Richmond, Delta and Surrey).

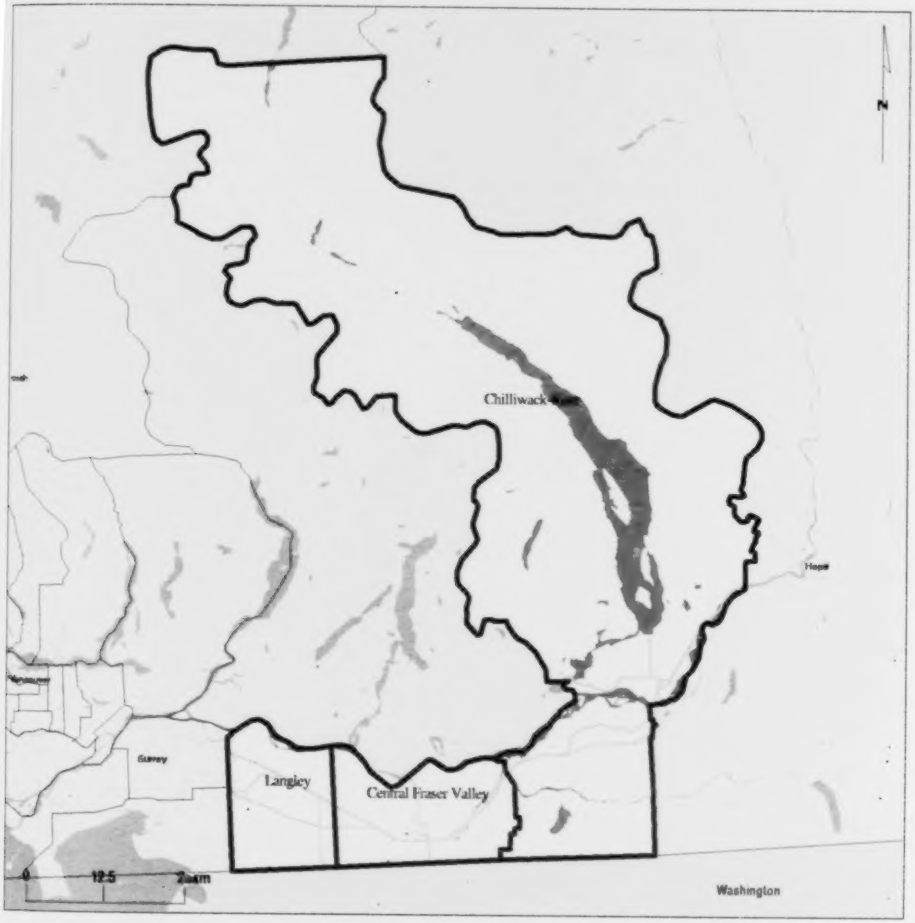
a. The Angus Commission (1966)

The Angus Commission recommended that the Chilliwack district be divided into two electoral districts (see Fraser Valley South, Map 2). A new electoral district of Langley would extend from the eastern boundary of Surrey eastward to Gladwin Road in Abbotsford. The more easterly district (to retain the name Chilliwack) would see its eastern boundary moved westward, to the eastern boundary of the Township of Chilliwack.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations.



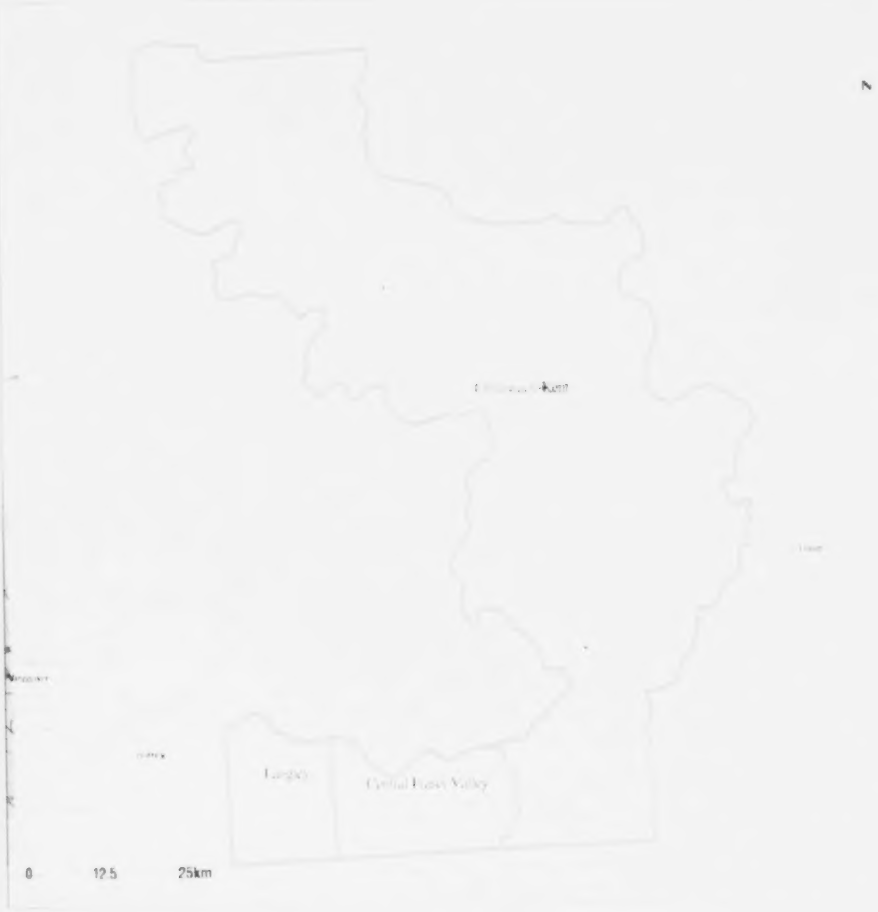
Fraser Valley South, Map 2



Fraser Valley South, Map 3

b. The Norris Commission (1975)
The Norris Commission concluded that there should be a Langley and Central Fraser Valley district (both exclusively south of the Fraser River), and that there should be a third district further east (to be named Chilliwack-Kent) that would extend almost to Hope and north across the Fraser River to include Agassiz, Harrison Mills, Harrison Hot Springs and the Harrison Lake area north to Garibaldi (see Fraser Valley South, Map 3). As far as possible, the commission used municipal and regional district boundaries.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.



Fraser Valley South, Map 3

The Norris Commission [illegible]

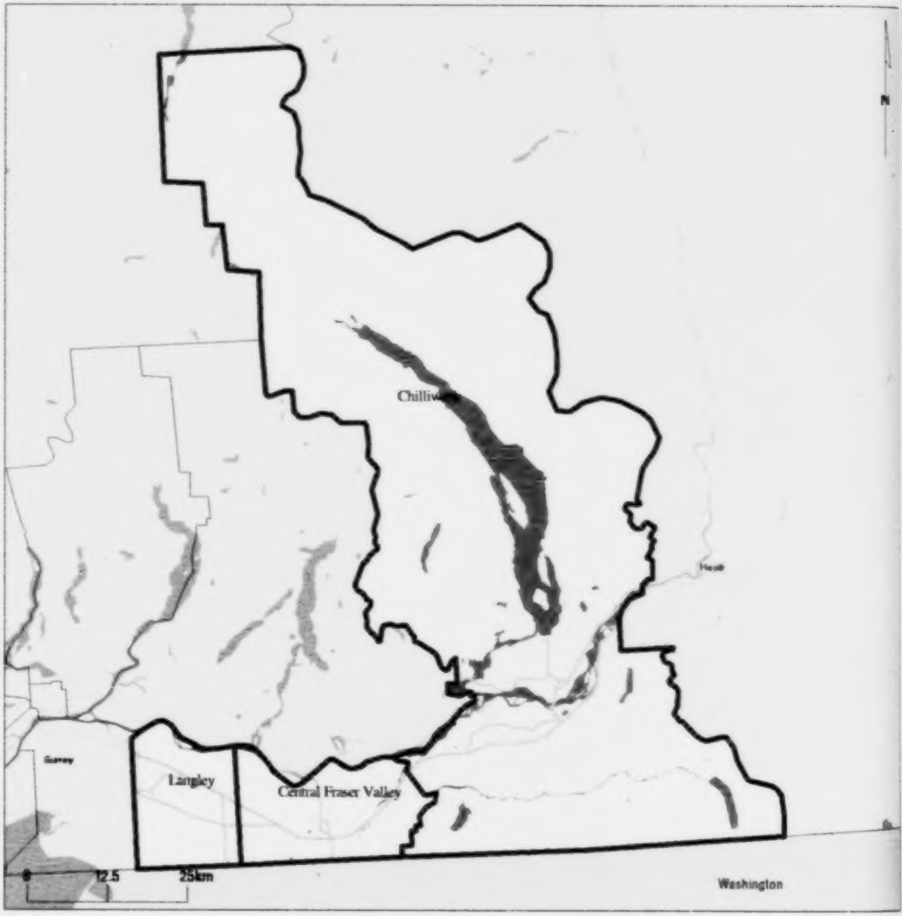
The Norris Commission concluded that there should be a Langley and Central Fraser Valley district (both exclusively south of the Fraser River), and that there should be a third district further east (to be named Chilliwack-Kent) that would extend almost to Hope and north across the Fraser River to include Agassiz, Harrison Mills, Harrison Hot Springs and the Harrison Lake area north to Garibaldi (see Fraser Valley South, Map 3). As far as possible, the commission used municipal and regional district boundaries.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.

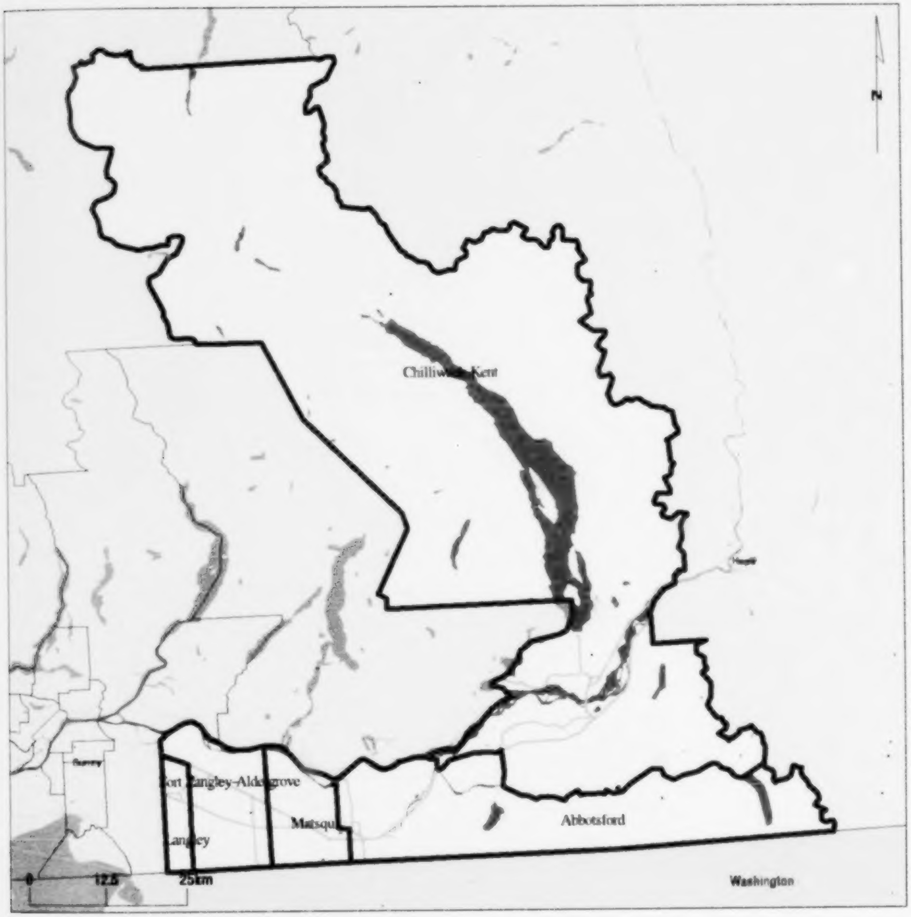
c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)

Judge Eckardt concluded that, due to population growth, this area warranted a third electoral district. He attempted, whenever possible, to avoid splitting municipalities. He recommended (see Fraser Valley South, Map 4) that the district of Langley follow the District of Langley boundaries, and include the City of Langley. A new Central Fraser Valley electoral district should be created, following very closely the boundaries recommended by the Norris Commission. Finally, he agreed with the Norris Commission that the Chilliwack electoral district should extend north of the Fraser River to include Agassiz and the Harrison Lake area, as "the ties between the area north of Fraser River and south of Fraser River have been reinforced and strengthened by the new bridge crossing and thus an extension to the north is justified."

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations.



Fraser Valley South, Map 4



Fraser Valley South, Map 5

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected these electoral districts.

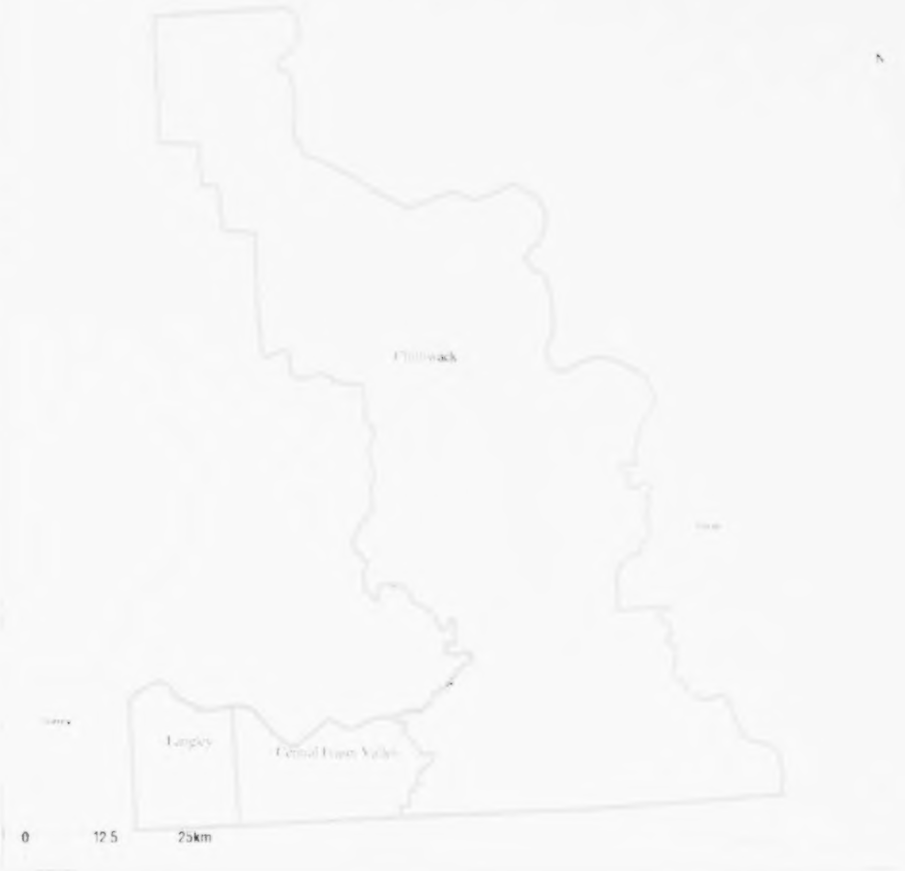
e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
The commission concluded that the Langley and Central Fraser Valley electoral districts exceeded the 60 percent threshold established in the legislation, and recommended that each of them become two-member electoral districts. The Legislative Assembly adopted the McAdam Commission's recommendations, giving this area five MLAs.

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
In accordance with Judge Fisher's mandate to eliminate dual-member electoral districts, he recommended in his interim report (see Fraser Valley South, Map 5) that the Langley electoral district be divided into Langley and Fort Langley–Aldergrove electoral districts, and that the Central Fraser Valley electoral district be divided into Matsqui and Abbotsford electoral districts. He also recommended that Chilliwack (to be renamed Chilliwack-Kent) should continue to extend north across the Fraser River, but only to the Harrison River.

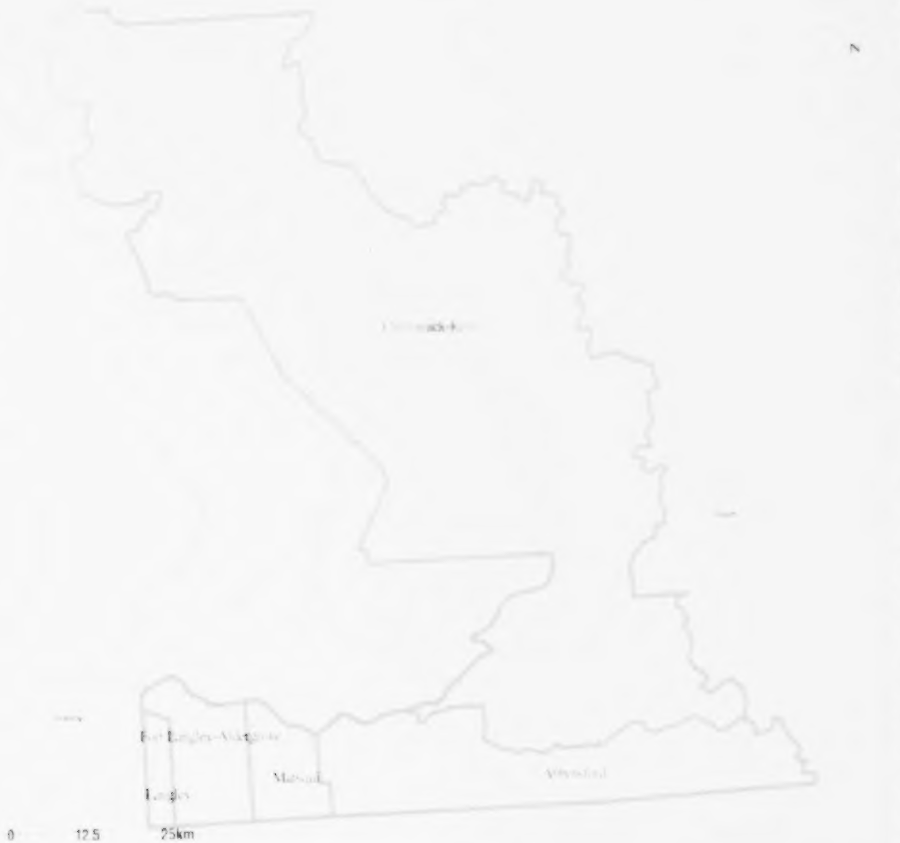
c) *The Eckardt Commission (1988)*

Judge Eckardt concluded that, due to population growth, this area warranted a third electoral district. He attempted, whenever possible, to avoid splitting municipalities. He recommended (see Fraser Valley South, Map 4) that the district of Langley follow the District of Langley boundaries, and include the City of Langley. A new Central Fraser Valley electoral district should be created, following very closely the boundaries recommended by the Norris Commission. Finally, he agreed with the Norris Commission that the Chilliwack electoral district should extend north of the Fraser River to include Agassiz and the Harrison Lake area, as "the ties between the area north of Fraser River and south of Fraser River have been reinforced and strengthened by the new bridge crossing and thus an extension to the north is justified."

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations.



Fraser Valley South, Map 4



Fraser Valley South, Map 5

[illegible]

None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected these electoral districts.

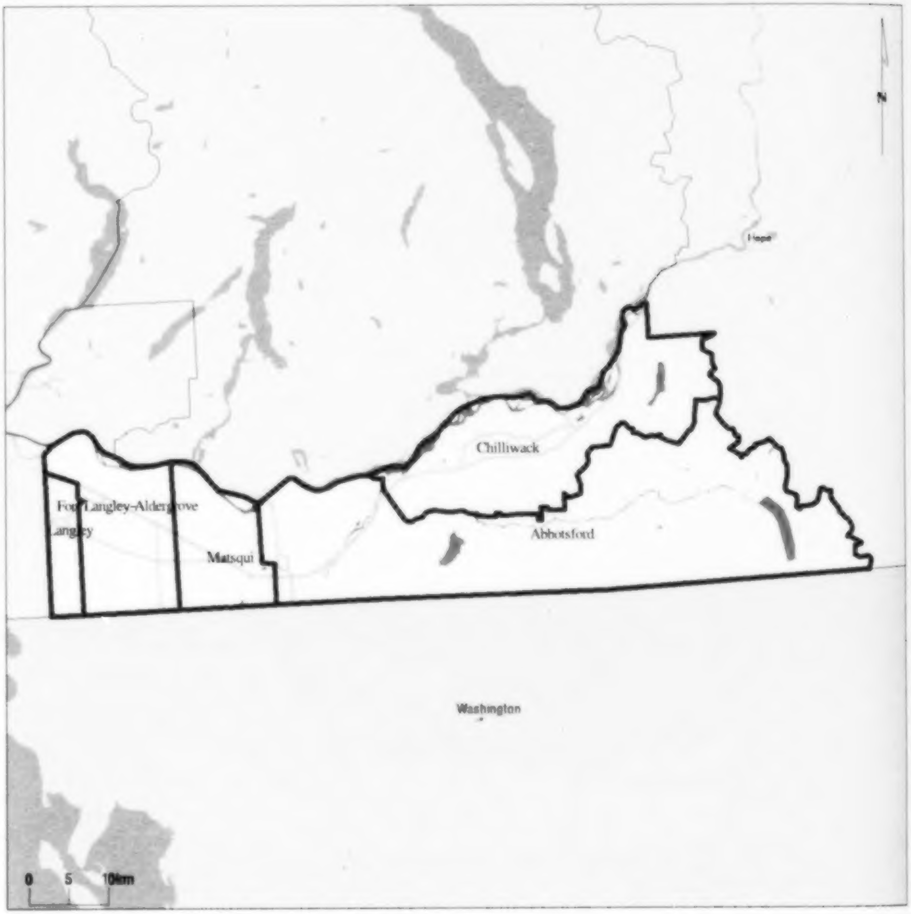
[illegible]

The commission concluded that the Langley and Central Fraser Valley electoral districts exceeded the 60 percent threshold established in the legislation, and recommended that each of them become two-member electoral districts. The Legislative Assembly adopted the McAdam Commission's recommendations, giving this area five MLAs.

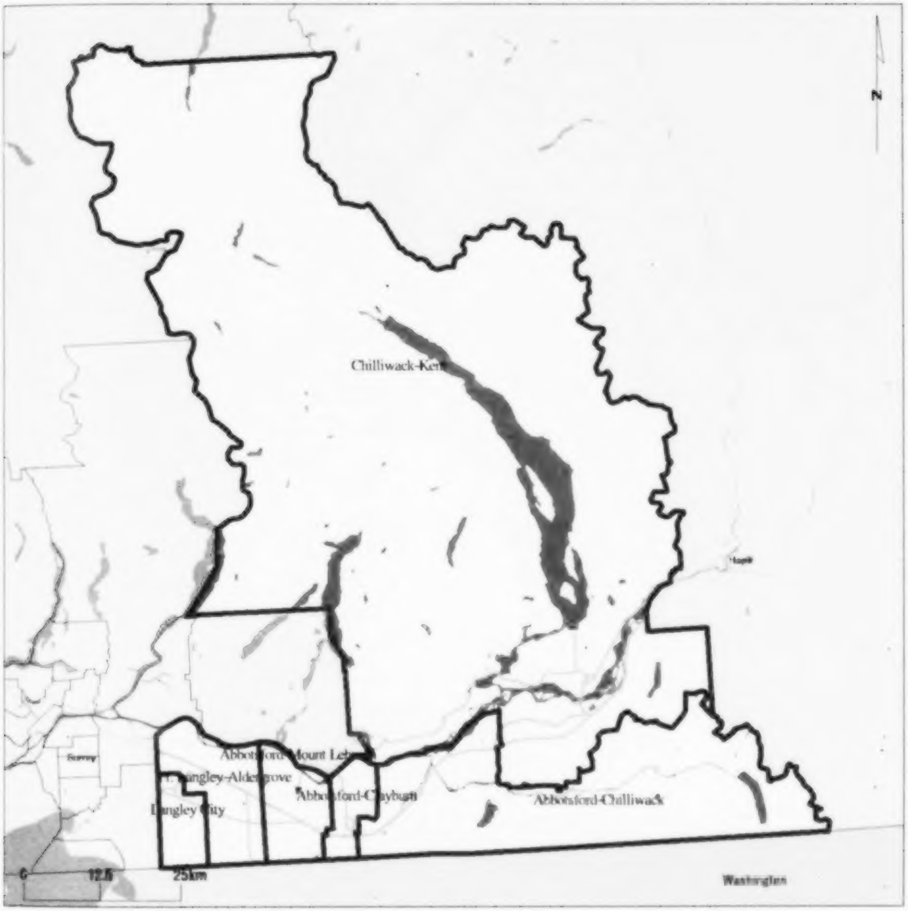
[illegible]

In accordance with Judge Fisher's mandate to eliminate dual-member electoral districts, he recommended in his interim report (see Fraser Valley South, Map 5) that the Langley electoral district be divided into Langley and Fort Langley–Aldergrove electoral districts, and that the Central Fraser Valley electoral district be divided into Matsqui and Abbotsford electoral districts. He also recommended that Chilliwack (to be renamed Chilliwack-Kent) should continue to extend north across the Fraser River, but only to the Harrison River.

In his final report, Judge Fisher made a significant change. His original proposal for the Chilliwack-Kent district caused great concern among residents of the existing electoral district of Chilliwack living south of the Fraser River, who would have been included in the proposed electoral district of Abbotsford in order to balance populations. If these areas were to remain in the Chilliwack riding, the only feasible alternative would be to link the Kent area to the proposed electoral district of Mission (north of the Fraser River), which is what he now recommended. As he saw it, this solution had three important benefits: it would avoid splitting communities south of the Fraser River, it would leave the Kent area intact, and it would utilize the natural boundaries of the Fraser River, Vedder Canal and Vedder River. He recommended that this reconfigured district be called Chilliwack. The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations (see Fraser Valley South, Map 6).



Fraser Valley South, Map 6

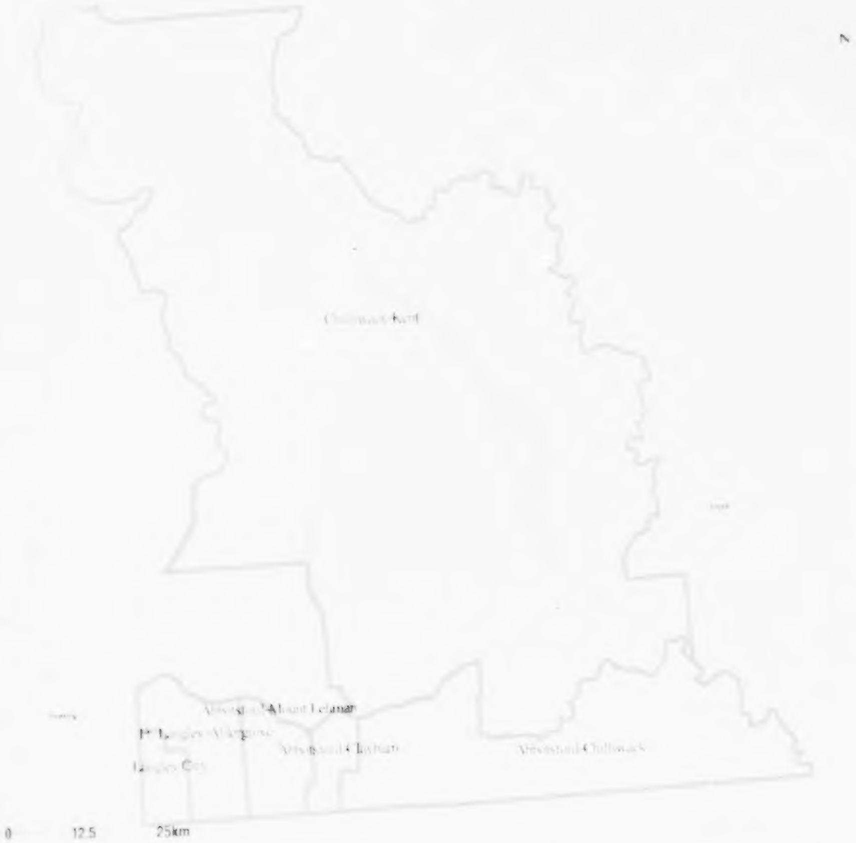

N
Chilliwack-Kent
Hope
Surrey
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman
Fort Langley-Aldergrove
Abbotsford-Clayburn
Langley City
Abbotsford-Chilliwack
0
12.5
25km
Washington

Fraser Valley South, Map 7

g. The Wood Commission (1999)

In its interim report, the Wood Commission recommended that the number of electoral districts in this region be increased from five to six, and proposed several significant changes to boundaries (see Fraser Valley South, Map 7):

- The Langley and Fort Langley–Aldergrove districts should be preserved, but with several boundary changes to accommodate expected population growth.
- The population of the Abbotsford area had increased significantly, and continued high growth was expected over the next decade. Although some submitters sought to create two electoral districts exclusively encompassing Abbotsford, the commission was unable to agree because it would result in significant positive deviations (plus 12 percent), and it would result in electoral districts to the east being relatively underpopulated (e.g. minus 9 percent). The only solution was to create two electoral districts wholly within the municipality of Abbotsford (Abbotsford–Mount Lehman and Abbotsford-Clayburn), and another district (Abbotsford-Chilliwack) that incorporated parts of both municipalities.
- Because of population growth, the Chilliwack area needed to be split between two electoral districts – the Abbotsford-Chilliwack district described above, and Chilliwack-Kent,


N
Chilliwack-Kent
Hope
Surrey
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman
Ft Langley-Aldergrove
Langley
Langley City
Abbotsford-Clayburn
Abbotsford-Chilliwack
0
12.5
25km

Fraser Valley South, Map 7

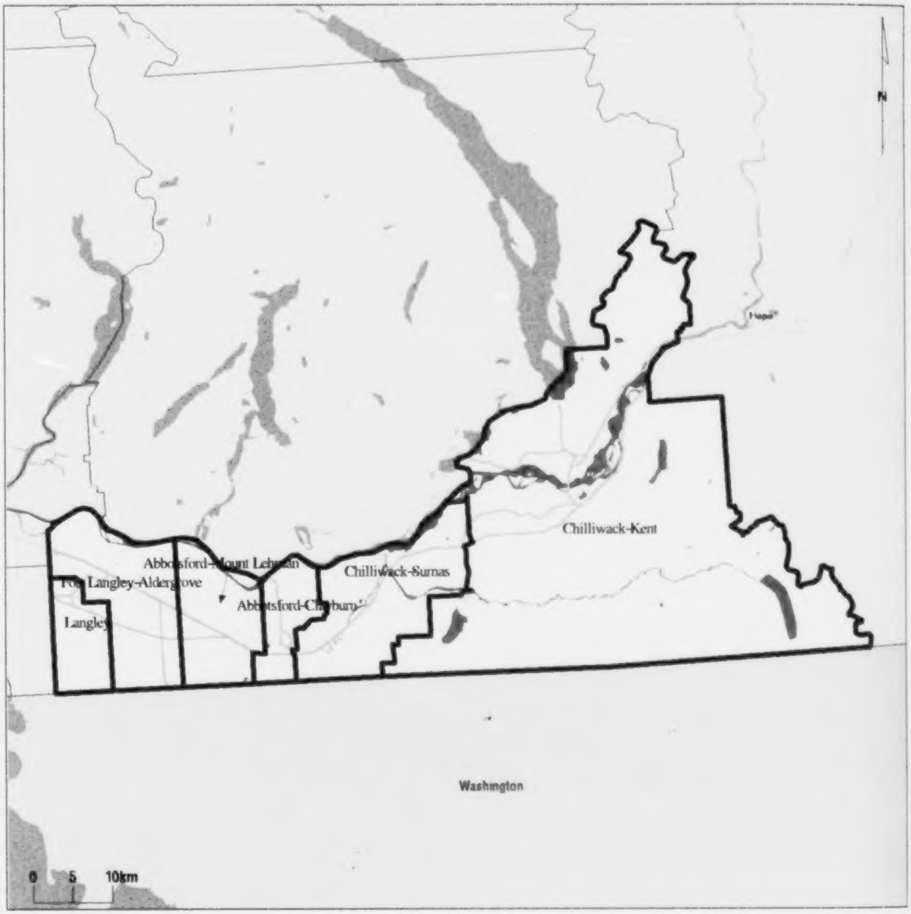
The Wood Commission (1998)

In its interim report, the Wood Commission recommended that the number of electoral districts in this region be increased from five to six, and proposed several significant changes to boundaries (see Fraser Valley South, Map 7):

- The Langley and Fort Langley–Aldergrove districts should be preserved, but with several boundary changes to accommodate expected population growth.
- The population of the Abbotsford area had increased significantly, and continued high growth was expected over the next decade. Although some submitters sought to create two electoral districts exclusively encompassing Abbotsford, the commission was unable to agree because it would result in significant positive deviations (plus 12 percent), and it would result in electoral districts to the east being relatively under-populated (e.g. minus 9 percent). The only solution was to create two electoral districts wholly within the municipality of Abbotsford (Abbotsford-Mount Lehman and Abbotsford-Clayburn), and another district (Abbotsford-Chilliwack) that incorporated parts of both municipalities.
- Because of population growth, the Chilliwack area needed to be split between two electoral districts – the Abbotsford-Chilliwack district described above, and Chilliwack-Kent,

which would extend north across the Fraser River to include the communities of Kent, Harrison Hot Springs and Agassiz and as far west as Hatzic Lake. The commission stated on p. 75 that:

> Although the river might appear to represent a logical boundary, we received numerous submissions indicating that the people in the communities on the north shore opposite Chilliwack – namely, Kent, Harrison Hot Springs and Agassiz – wished to be included in a Chilliwack electoral district. It was explained to us that the transportation route via the bridge on Highway 9 has made Chilliwack a much more accessible center for the people of the north shore than Mission, and that, as a result, these communities have developed close ties with Chilliwack.



Fraser Valley South, Map 8

In its final report (see Fraser Valley South, Map 8), the Wood Commission recommended several boundary changes to Abbotsford–Mount Lehman and Abbotsford-Clayburn. With respect to the Chilliwack area, the commission decided that the communities north of the Fraser River lying between Mission and Harrison Lake (Hatzic Lake, Deroche and Harrison Mills) should be included in the proposed north shore electoral district of Maple Ridge–Mission. That would leave the north shore communities of Kent, Harrison Hot Springs and Agassiz in the Chilliwack-Kent district that straddled the Fraser River, but the inclusion of 5,000 people into Maple Ridge–Mission meant that Chilliwack-Kent needed to extend further south. The commission accepted submissions that population could be balanced by extending Chilliwack-Kent south to the U.S. border, and substituting a new Chilliwack-Sumas electoral district for the Abbotsford-Chilliwack district which had been proposed in the interim report. This name recognized that the majority of residents lived in Chilliwack, but that the western portion of the electoral district included Sumas Prairie and Sumas Mountain. The commission recognized that Highway 1 was a logical dividing line for Chilliwack, but concluded that using it as a boundary created too much of a population disparity between the two Chilliwack electoral districts.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

3. Our analysis of the Fraser Valley electoral districts

Including electoral districts on both sides of the Fraser River, the geographical area that we describe as the Fraser Valley region (east of the Pitt River and east of Surrey) now has eight electoral districts. (see map on page 170.) Those electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 15):

TABLE 15: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE FRASER VALLEY

Electoral District	1996 deviation*	2006 deviation**
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	+10.3%	+9.1%
Maple Ridge–Mission	+13.0%	+30.9%
Langley	+7.7%	+12.9%
Fort Langley–Aldergrove	+11.2%	+13.4%
Abbotsford–Mount Lehman	+2.8%	+11.9%
Abbotsford-Clayburn	-9.0%	-8.8%
Chilliwack-Sumas	-8.1%	-0.8%
Chilliwack-Kent	-7.0%	-1.7%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

The Fraser Valley has a total population of 459,510.[60] Rebalancing this population among the eight electoral districts would result in every electoral district having a deviation of plus 10.3 percent, (based on 79 electoral districts), too high for such a fast-growing area. Adding a ninth electoral district would result in an average deviation of plus 0.5 percent (based on 81 electoral districts), quite appropriate for this area. We are persuaded that the number of electoral districts in the Fraser Valley should be increased from eight to nine.

This calls for a significant reconfiguration of the existing electoral boundaries. As the table set out shows, there is currently a very uneven distribution of population among electoral districts, ranging from minus 8.8 percent to plus 30.9 percent. In this area of the province we should, subject to important considerations such as municipal boundaries and community interests, strive for electoral districts that exhibit relatively comparable deviations.

However, striving for relatively equal deviations clashes with our goal to create, wherever possible, electoral districts that respect municipal boundaries. On the north side of the Fraser River, for example, Maple Ridge (pop. 68,949) is too large for one electoral district, but not large enough for two. To the west of Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows (pop. 15,623) is far too small for its own electoral district, which means that it must be joined with the western part of Maple Ridge. Combining Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows to form two electoral districts (total population of 84,572) would result in each of them having a deviation of minus 16.7 percent, which in our view is not desirable for this urban area, even with its growth projections.

---

[60] Includes 8,100 persons from Yale-Lillooet.

Consequently, we have decided to adopt the approach taken by the 1999 Wood Commission of dividing Maple Ridge between two electoral districts – with Pitt Meadows to the west, and Mission to the east (see maps of proposed Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows electoral district page 172 and proposed Maple Ridge–Mission electoral district page 173). Before reaching that decision, we did consider several other options:

- Create an exclusively Maple Ridge electoral district with a population of about 51,000. However, that would have resulted in a second, crescent-shaped district composed of Pitt Meadows (pop. 15,623), the balance of Maple Ridge (pop. 17,949) and the western part of Mission (pop. about 17,400).
- Develop a configuration that would combine some parts of Pitt Meadows and/or Maple Ridge with Langley and/or Abbotsford communities south of the Fraser River. From a transportation perspective, this will be feasible by 2009 with completion of the Golden Ears Bridge that will cross the Fraser River at 201st Street. The reason for doing this would be to increase the Pitt Meadows–Maple Ridge population enough to create one district wholly within Maple Ridge and a second Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows electoral district, thus avoiding a Maple Ridge–Mission district. However, to do this now would require encroaching into Langley and/or Abbotsford enough so that about 17,000 constituents from south of the river would be in an electoral district north of the river. In our view, this would be disruptive to communities south of the Fraser River, at a time when the only transportation corridor across the river in this area is the Albion–Fort Langley ferry, with few demonstrable community interests. That situation may well change by the time of the next electoral boundaries commission, after the Golden Ears Bridge has been in service for several years.

Creating a Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows electoral district with a population at about the provincial electoral quotient (50,784) means that nearly 34,000 residents of Maple Ridge will become part of the Maple Ridge–Mission district. Regrettably, this means that the domino effect moves further east, because the Maple Ridge–Mission district needs only about 16,000 residents from Mission (pop. 34,742), to reach the provincial electoral quotient. The result is that Mission, too, must be divided between two electoral districts.

In designing this more easterly Mission-based electoral district, there are two options. We could extend the district eastward, staying north of the Fraser River, which means that Mission would be included in the same electoral district as Kent, Agassiz, Harrison Hot Springs, Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities.[61] The alternative would be to join the eastern part of Mission with the Matsqui and Clayburn areas of Abbotsford south of the Fraser River. The Mission Bridge, which connects these areas, makes this option feasible.

During our public consultation, we heard nothing to suggest discontent with the current inclusion of Kent, Agassiz and Harrison Hot Springs in the Chilliwack-Kent electoral district. The people living in these communities are connected to Chilliwack via the Highway 9 bridge at Agassiz and they assured us, as they had the 1999 Wood Commission, that their trading routes and community interests lie with Chilliwack to the south, not Mission to the west.

---

[61] Earlier is this section of the report (see Cariboo–Thompson), we decided that the District Municipality of Hope and nearby Fraser Canyon communities should be included in an eastern Fraser Valley electoral district.

At the same time, we were told that there is a high level of inter-governmental co-ordination between Mission and Abbotsford – they are in the same regional district, and they share a regional water and sewer system, a recycling system and a transit system. The Mission Bridge facilitates transportation between the two areas.

We decided to join the eastern part of Mission with the Matsqui and Clayburn areas of Abbotsford into one electoral district, rather than join Mission with Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities (see map of proposed Mission-Clayburn electoral district page 174). Having said that, we propose that communities east of Mission to the current Harrison River boundary, be included in this new electoral district that we propose be named Mission-Clayburn. It will have a deviation of plus 4.1 percent.

Turning to the area of the Fraser Valley south of the Fraser River, we again are faced with municipal populations that do not match well with our provincial electoral quotient of 50,784. Moving eastward from the Surrey-Langley border, we find the following municipal populations:

• City of Langley	23,606
• Township of Langley	93,726
• Abbotsford*	109,290
• Chilliwack	69,217

*(net population after deducting the 14,574 residents of Abbotsford who are included in our Mission-Clayburn Electoral District.)

Ideally, two electoral districts should be created that correspond exactly with the remaining Abbotsford population. However, that configuration would result in having two Langley-based electoral districts to the west with a total population of 117,332, giving each a deviation of plus 15.5 percent (based on 81 districts), too high in this rapidly-growing area.

Consequently, we began the boundary setting task at the Surrey-Langley border and, moving eastward, developed electoral districts with roughly similar deviations and which, as much as possible, respected local community interests. The result is five electoral districts entirely south of the Fraser River, and a sixth in the eastern Fraser Valley that combines eastern Chilliwack with Kent, Agassiz, Harrison Hot Springs (as at present), and now includes Hope and adjacent Fraser Canyon communities that are within the Fraser Valley Regional District (see maps of six proposed electoral districtspage 175-180). They will have deviations ranging from minus 3.8 percent to plus 4.8 percent.

We realize that this configuration results in the Township of Langley (pop. 93,726) being split among three electoral districts and the City of Abbotsford (pop. 123,864) being split among four electoral districts. Given the distribution of the Fraser Valley's population among its numerous municipal divisions, and the very limited transportation connections across the Fraser River, we could devise no better arrangement of electoral districts. We should also observe that, although the proposed Chilliwack-Hope electoral district covers a large geographical area, almost the entire population lives along an easily accessible narrow corridor between Chilliwack and Hope.

4. Conclusion

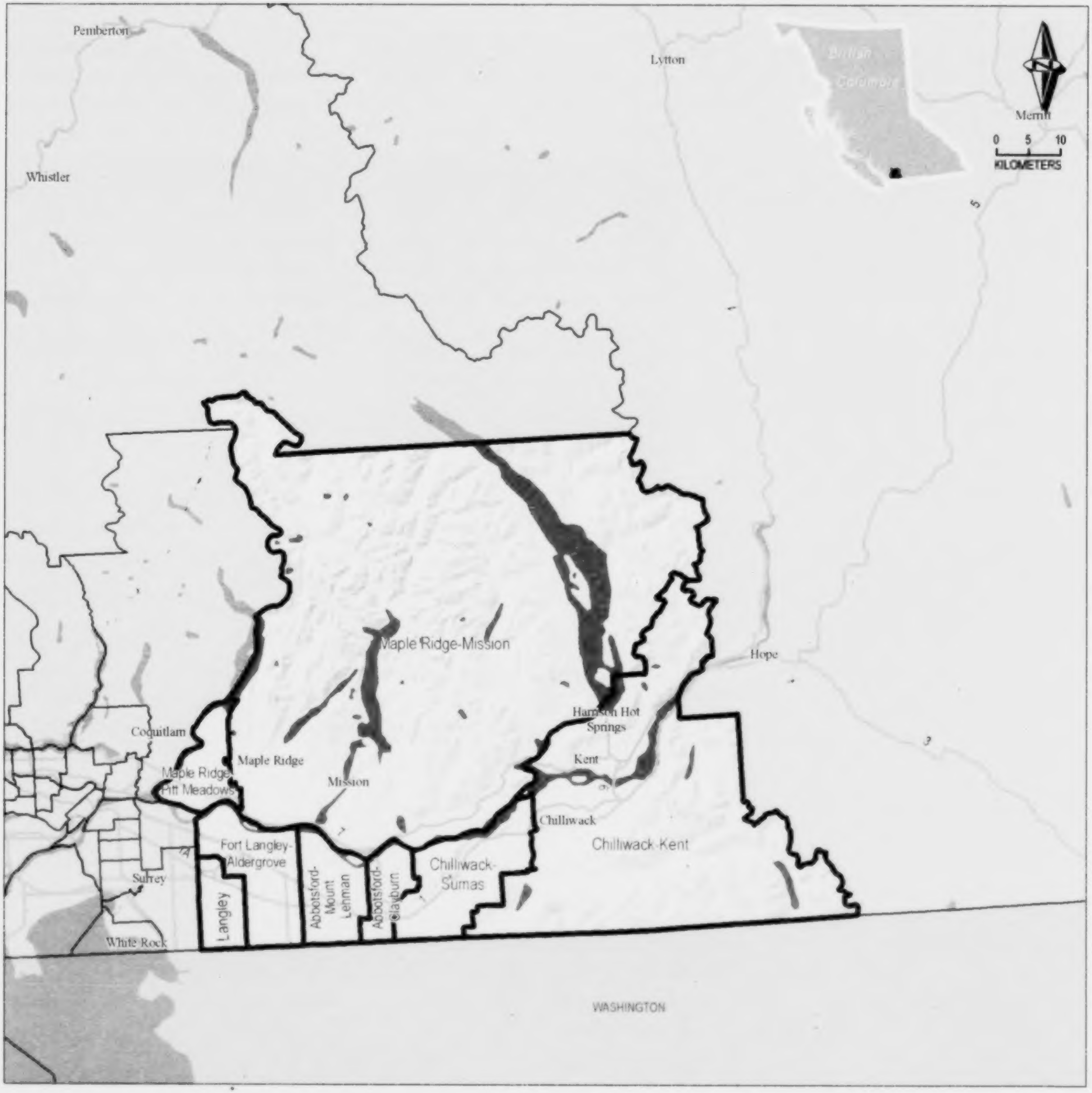
Accordingly, we propose that there be nine electoral districts in the Fraser Valley, as follows:

TABLE 1h: PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE FRASER VALLEY

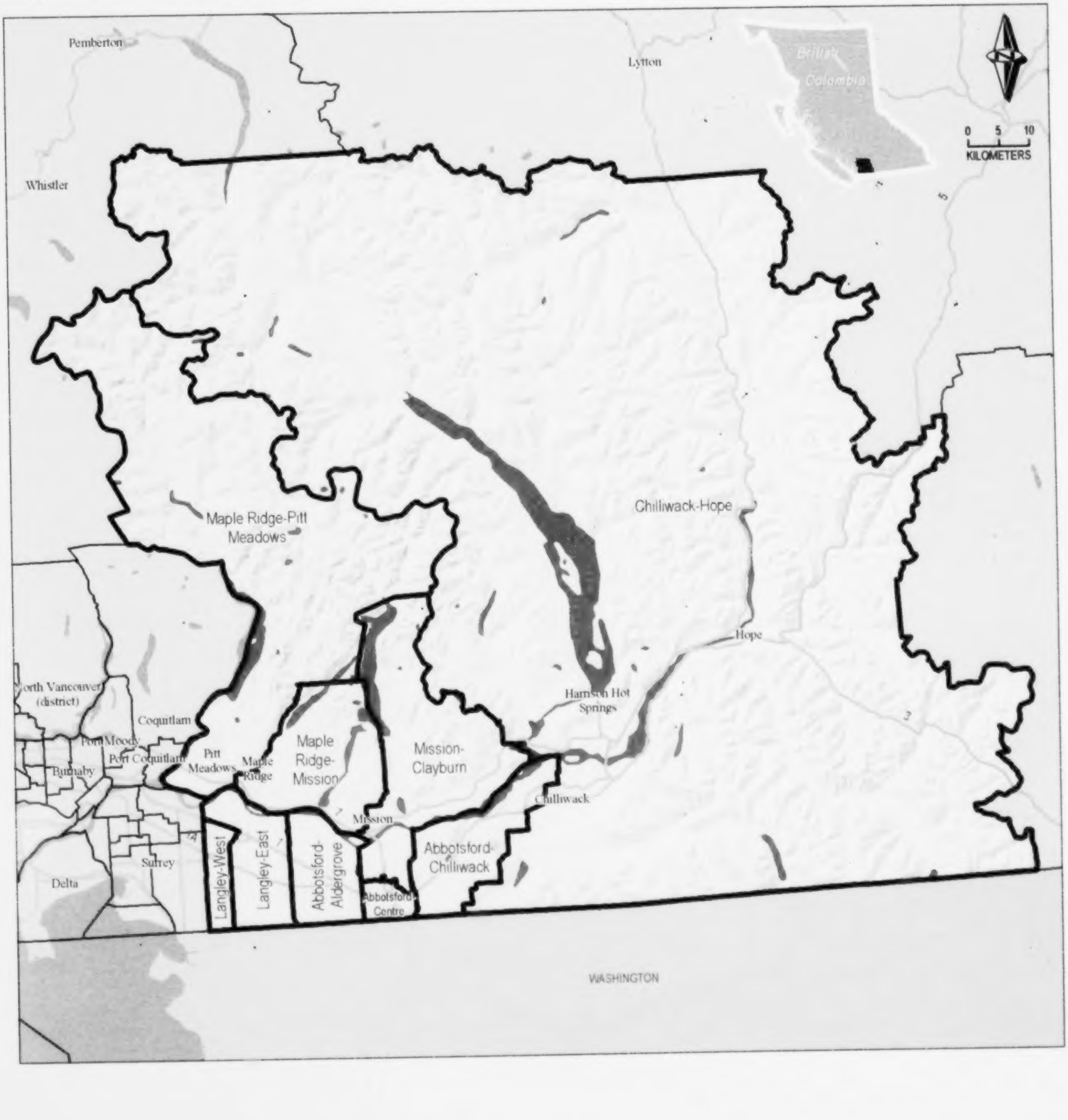
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	1,946	50,474	-0.6%
Maple Ridge–Mission	389	50,193	-1.2%
Mission-Clayburn	638	52,874	+4.1%
Langley West	73	53,231	+4.8%
Langley East	211	50,805	0%
Abbotsford-Aldergrove	193	50,965	+0.4%
Abbotsford Centre	49	52,495	+3.4%
Abbotsford-Chilliwack	281	49,863	-1.8%
Chilliwack-Hope	10,842	48,807	-3.9%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

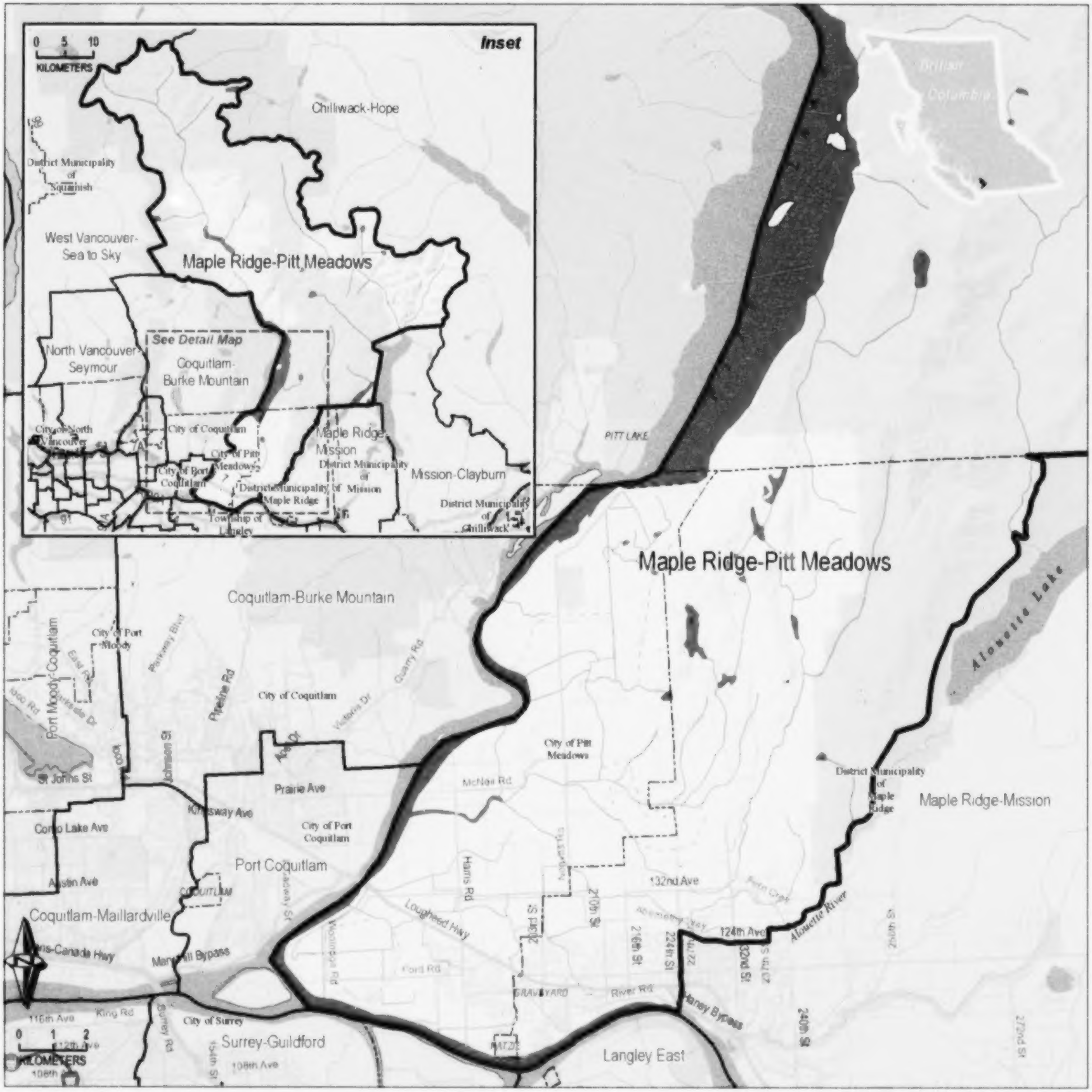
Region: Fraser Valley – Current Fraser Valley Electoral Districts


Pemberton
Lytton
British Columbia
Merritt
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
Whistler
5
Maple Ridge-Mission
Hope
Harrison Hot Springs
3
Coquitlam
Maple Ridge
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Mission
Kent
7
Chilliwack
Chilliwack-Kent
Fort Langley-Aldergrove
Chilliwack-Sumas
Surrey
Langley
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman
Abbotsford-Clayburn
White Rock
WASHINGTON

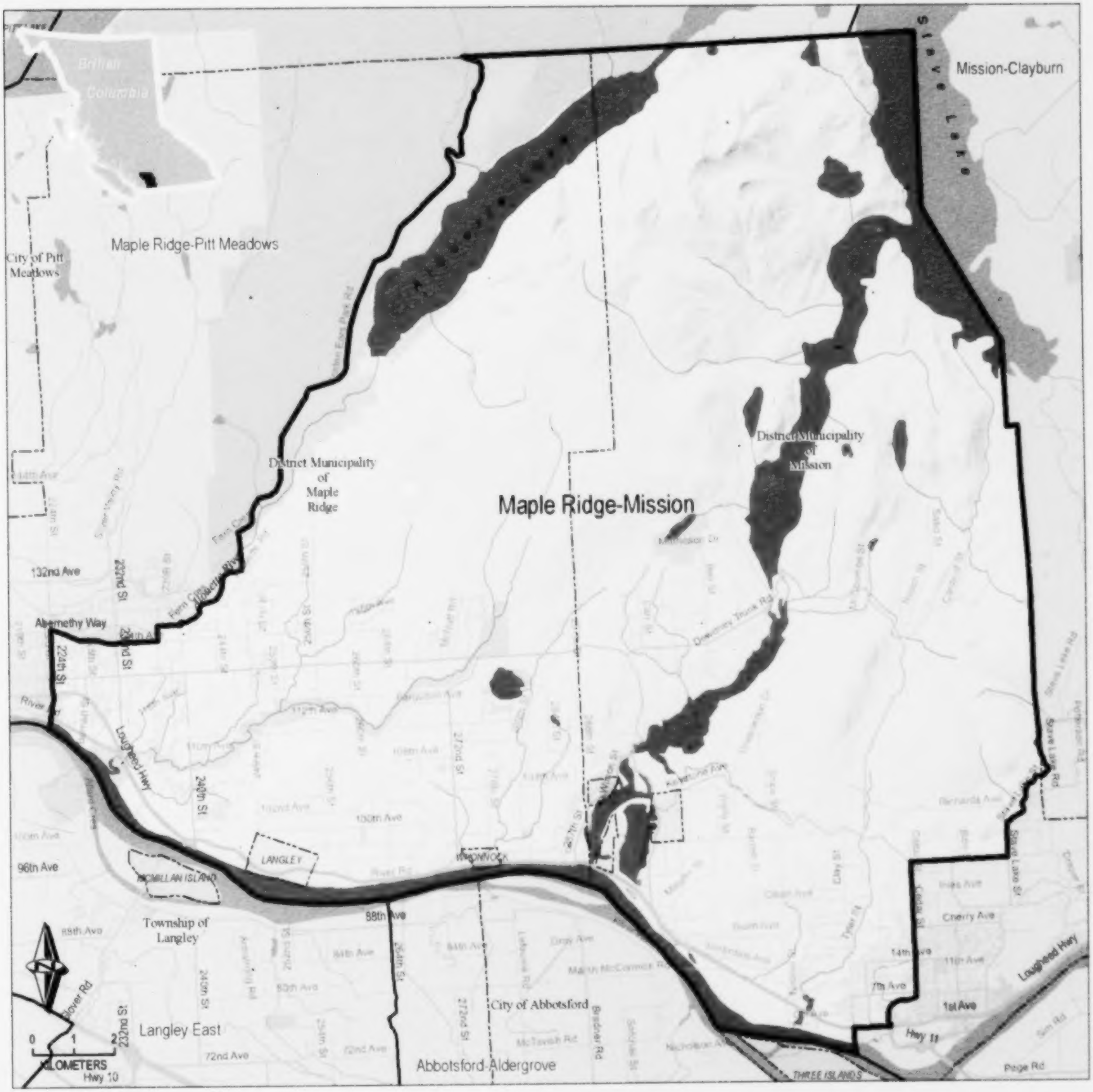
Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Fraser Valley Electoral Districts


Pemberton
Lytton
British Columbia
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
Whistler
5
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Chilliwack-Hope
Hope
North Vancouver (district)
Coquitlam
Port Moody
Port Coquitlam
Burnaby
Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge
Maple Ridge-Mission
Mission-Clayburn
Harrison Hot Springs
3
Chilliwack
Mission
Abbotsford-Chilliwack
Surrey
Delta
Langley-West
Langley-East
Abbotsford-Aldergrove
Abbotsford-Centre
WASHINGTON

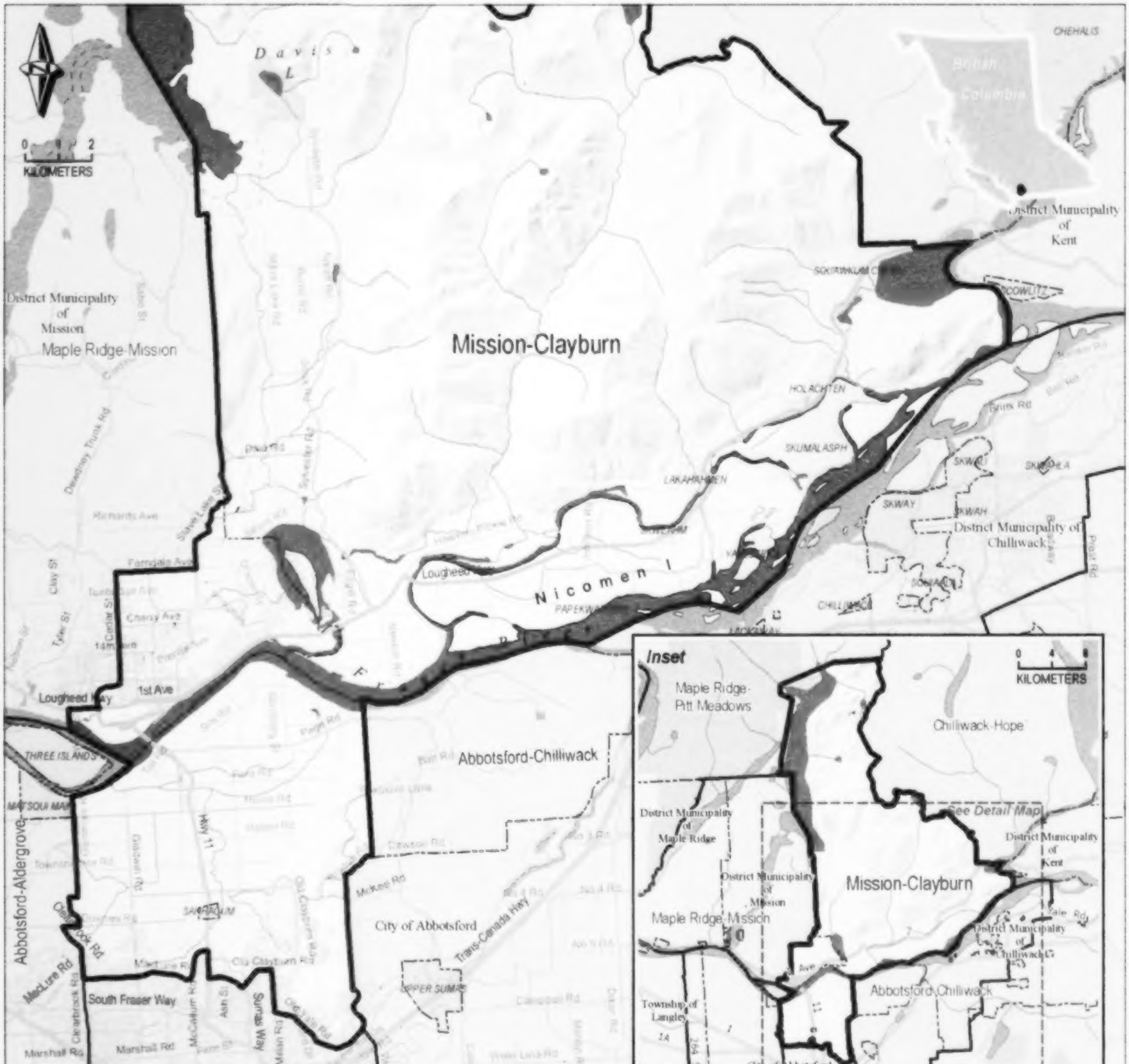
Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows Electoral District


0 5 10
KILOMETERS
Inset
Chilliwack-Hope
District Municipality of Squamish
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
See Detail Map
North Vancouver-Seymour
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
City of North Vancouver
City of Coquitlam
City of Pitt Meadows
City of Port Coquitlam
Maple Ridge-Mission
District Municipality of Mission
District Municipality of Maple Ridge
Mission-Clayburn
District Municipality of Chilliwack
Township of Langley
British Columbia
PITT LAKE
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Alouette Lake
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
City of Port Moody
Port Moody-Coquitlam
Parkway Blvd
Pipeline Rd
Quarry Rd
City of Coquitlam
Victoria Dr
Johnson St
St Johns St
Prairie Ave
Kingsway Ave
City of Port Coquitlam
Como Lake Ave
Austin Ave
Port Coquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville
Trans-Canada Hwy
Mary Hill Bypass
City of Pitt Meadows
McNeil Rd
Harris Rd
Lougheed Hwy
203rd St
210th St
216th St
224th St
132nd Ave
124th Ave
Alouette River
District Municipality of Maple Ridge
Maple Ridge-Mission
232nd St
240th St
256th St
272nd St
Ford Rd
River Rd
Haney Bypass
116th Ave
King Rd
City of Surrey
Surrey-Guildford
108th Ave
Langley East
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Maple Ridge–Mission Electoral District

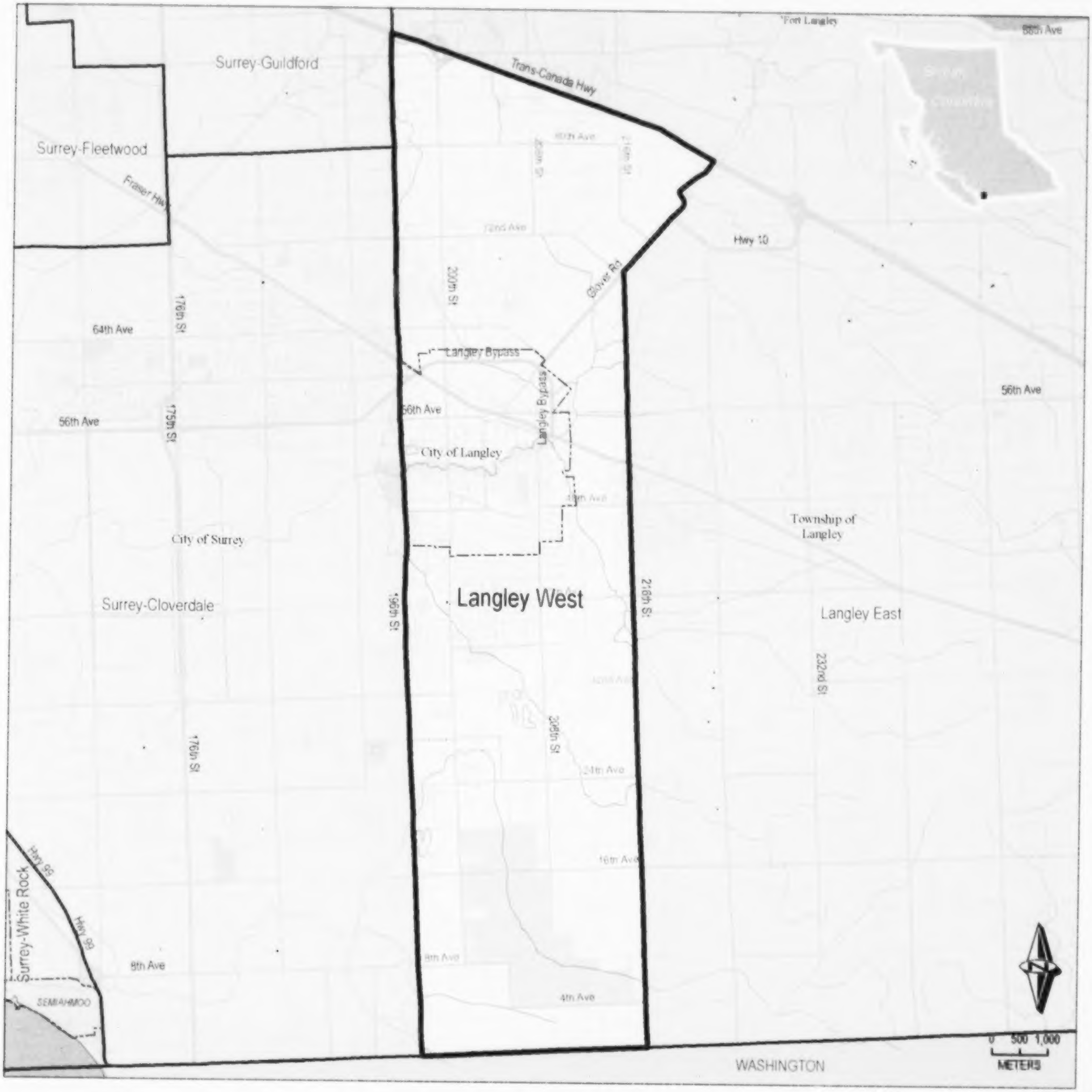

British Columbia
Mission-Clayburn
Stave Lake
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
City of Pitt Meadows
District Municipality of Maple Ridge
Maple Ridge-Mission
District Municipality of Mission
132nd Ave
232nd St
Abernethy Way
224th St
River Rd
Lougheed Hwy
240th St
272nd St
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Stave Lake St
96th Ave
McMILLAN ISLAND
LANGLEY
WHONNOCK
88th Ave
Township of Langley
City of Abbotsford
Cedar St
Cherry Ave
1st Ave
7th Ave
14th Ave
Hwy 11
Lougheed Hwy
Page Rd
THREE ISLANDS
Glover Rd
232nd St
Langley East
Abbotsford-Aldergrove
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
Hwy 10
72nd Ave
Bradner Rd

Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Mission-Clayburn Electoral District

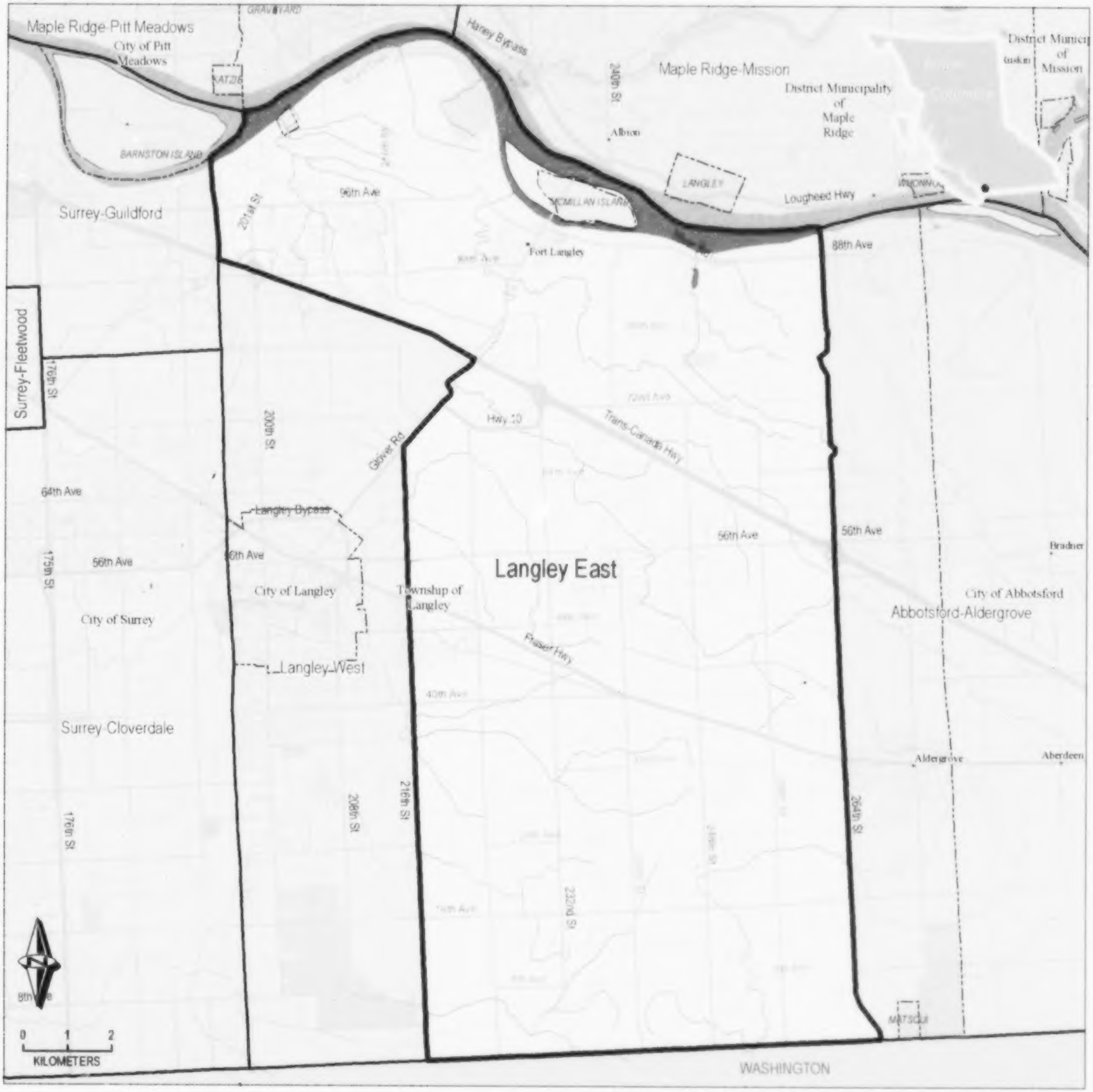


Mission-Clayburn
District Municipality of Mission
Maple Ridge-Mission
District Municipality of Kent
British Columbia
Nicomen I
Abbotsford-Chilliwack
District Municipality of Chilliwack
City of Abbotsford
Abbotsford-Aldergrove
Abbotsford Centre
0 1 2 KILOMETERS
Lougheed Hwy
1st Ave
South Fraser Way
Trans-Canada Hwy
THREE ISLANDS
MATSQUI MAIN
UPPER SUMAS
Inset
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Chilliwack-Hope
District Municipality of Maple Ridge
Township of Langley
See Detail Map
0 4 8 KILOMETERS

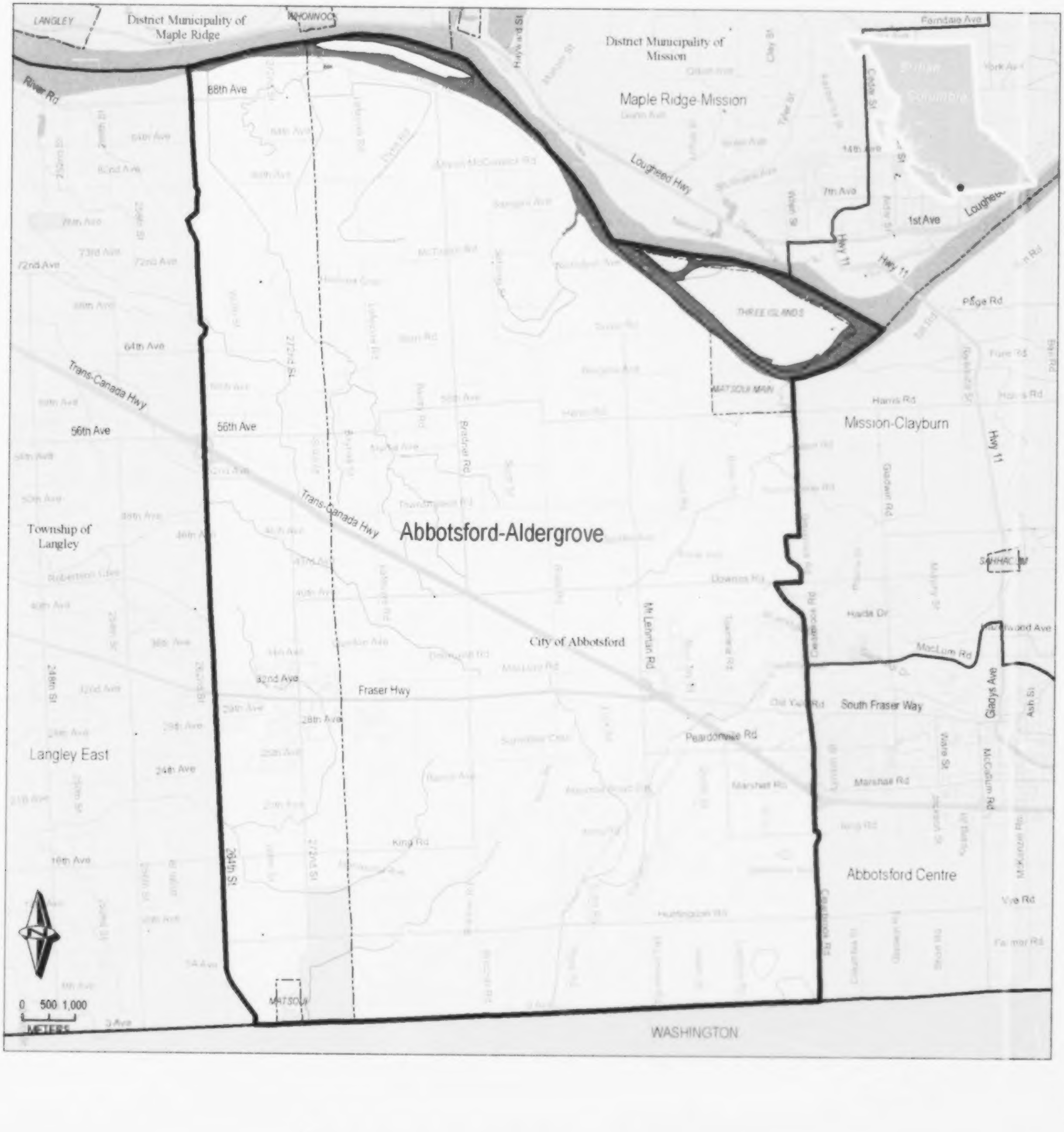
Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Langley West Electoral District


Fort Langley
88th Ave
Surrey-Guildford
Trans-Canada Hwy
Surrey-Fleetwood
Fraser Hwy
80th Ave
208th St
216th St
72nd Ave
Hwy 10
Glover Rd
200th St
176th St
64th Ave
Langley Bypass
Langley Bypass
56th Ave
56th Ave
56th Ave
175th St
City of Langley
48th Ave
Township of Langley
City of Surrey
Langley West
Surrey-Cloverdale
196th St
216th St
Langley East
232nd St
32nd Ave
208th St
176th St
24th Ave
16th Ave
Hwy 99
Surrey-White Rock
Hwy 99
8th Ave
8th Ave
SEMIAHMOO
4th Ave
WASHINGTON
0 500 1,000
METERS

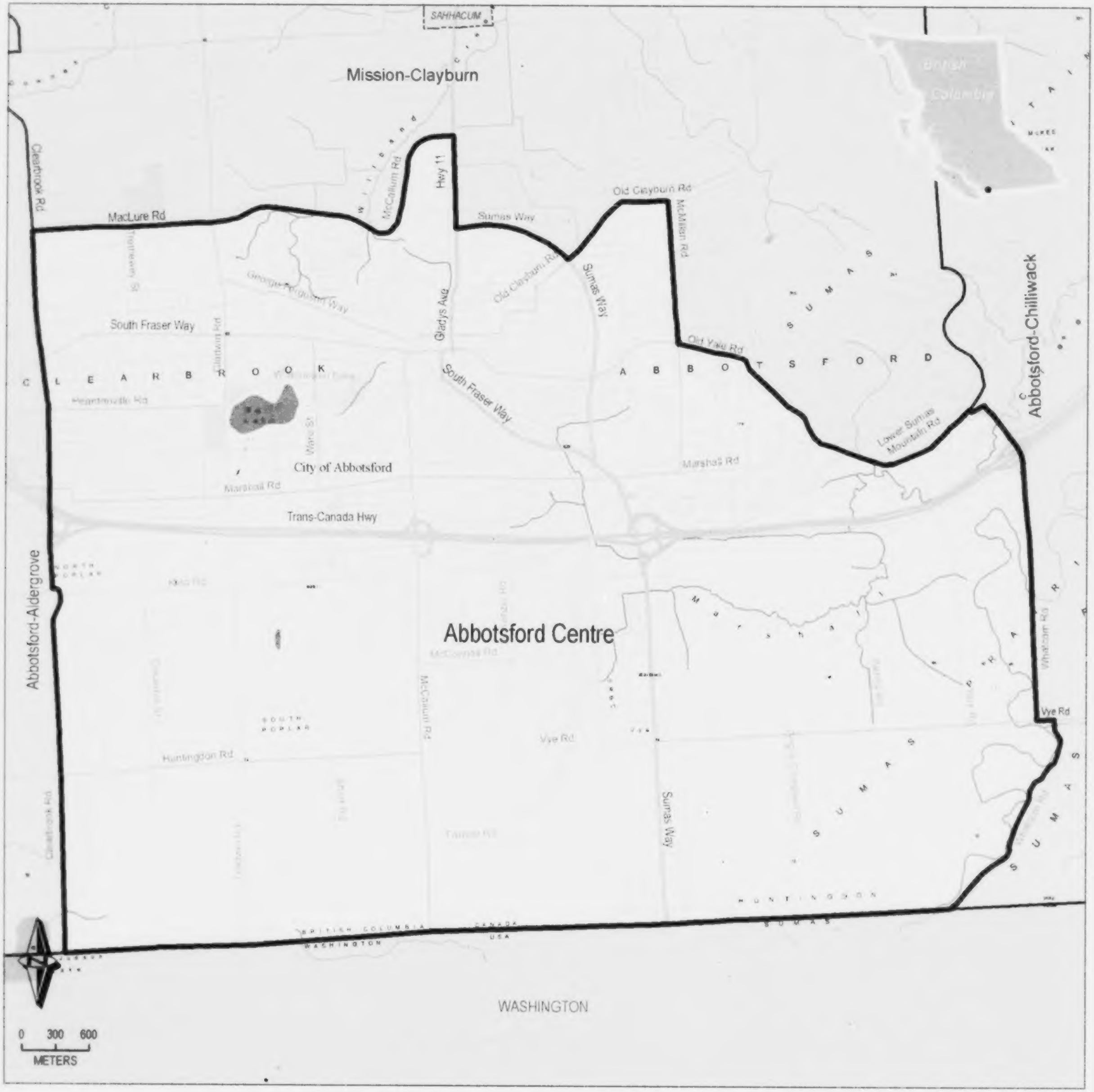
Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Langley East Electoral District


Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
City of Pitt Meadows
GRAVEYARD
KATZIE
BARNSTON ISLAND
Haney Bypass
240th St
Maple Ridge-Mission
District Municipality of Maple Ridge
District Municipality of Mission
Albion
LANGLEY
MCMILLAN ISLAND
Lougheed Hwy
WHONNOCK
Surrey-Guildford
96th Ave
201st St
Fort Langley
88th Ave
Surrey-Fleetwood
176th St
Hwy 10
Trans-Canada Hwy
200th St
Glover Rd
64th Ave
Langley Bypass
56th Ave
Langley East
City of Langley
Township of Langley
City of Abbotsford
Abbotsford-Aldergrove
Bradner
City of Surrey
Fraser Hwy
Langley West
40th Ave
Surrey-Cloverdale
Aldergrove
Aberdeen
216th St
208th St
264th St
232nd St
176th St
8th Ave
MATSQUI
0 1 2 KILOMETERS
WASHINGTON

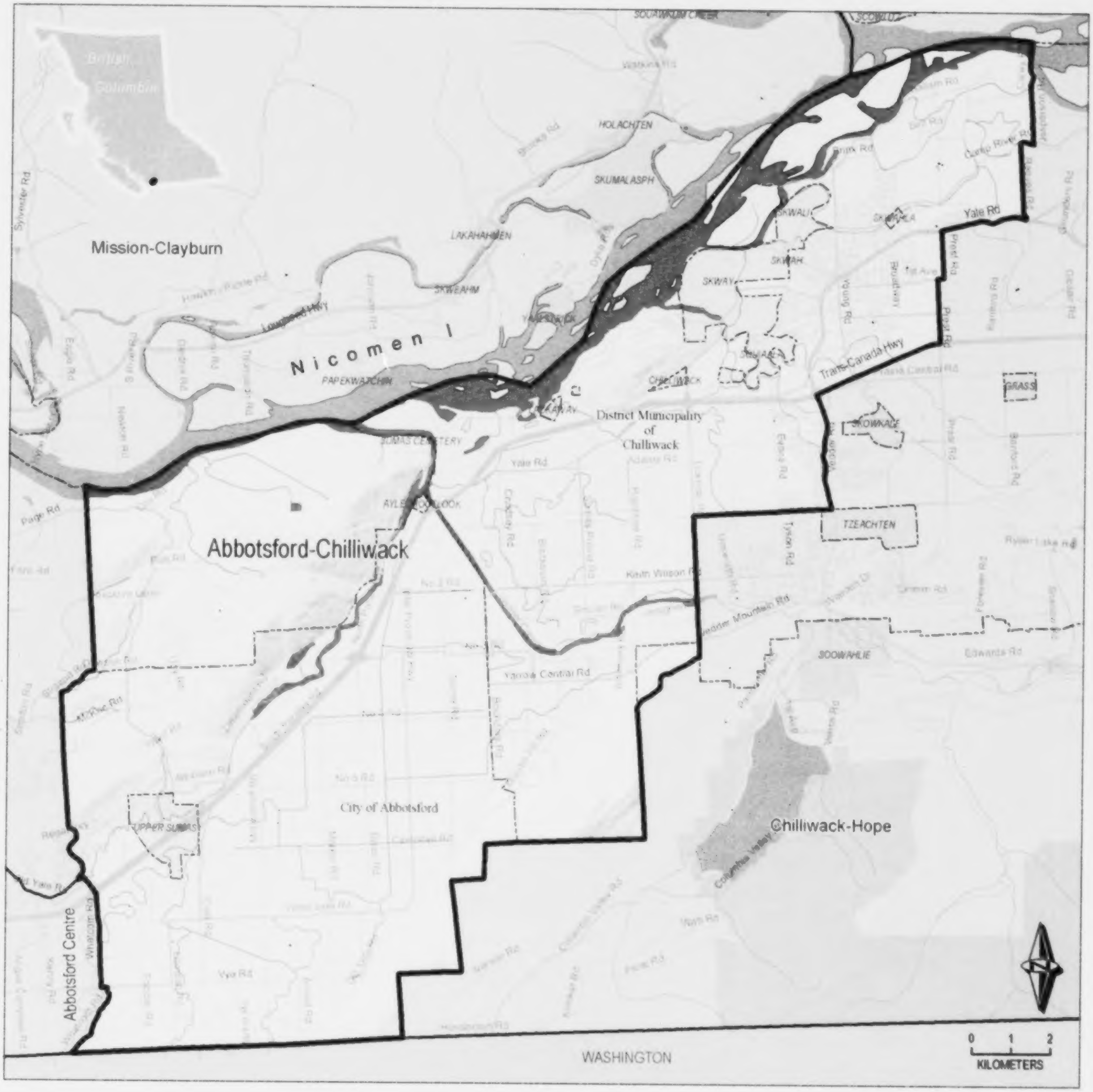
Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Abbotsford-Aldergrove Electoral District


LANGLEY
District Municipality of Maple Ridge
District Municipality of Mission
Maple Ridge-Mission
Ferndale Ave
British Columbia
River Rd
88th Ave
Lougheed Hwy
14th Ave
7th Ave
1st Ave
Hwy 11
THREE ISLANDS
MATSQUI MAIN
Page Rd
Harris Rd
Mission-Clayburn
64th Ave
Trans-Canada Hwy
56th Ave
56th Ave
Township of Langley
Abbotsford-Aldergrove
Downes Rd
Hwy 11
City of Abbotsford
Mt Lehman Rd
Maclure Rd
Gladys Ave
South Fraser Way
Peardonville Rd
Fraser Hwy
32nd Ave
28th Ave
24th Ave
248th St
Langley East
264th St
272nd St
King Rd
Marshall Rd
Abbotsford Centre
Ware St
McCallum Rd
Ash St
Vye Rd
MATSQUI
WASHINGTON
0 500 1,000
METERS

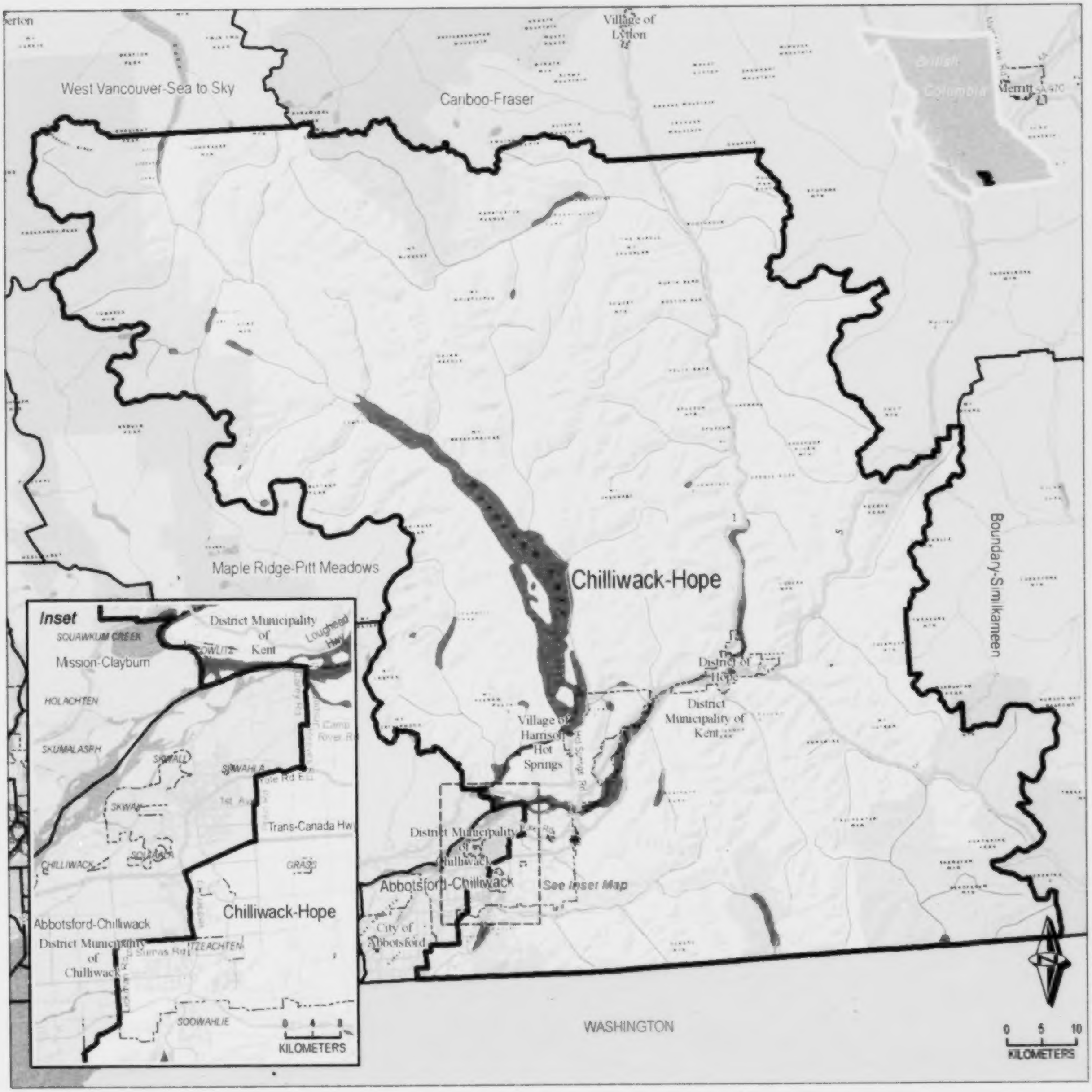
Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Abbotsford Centre Electoral District


SAHHACUM
Mission-Clayburn
British Columbia
Clearbrook Rd
MacLure Rd
McCallum Rd
Hwy 11
Sumas Way
Old Clayburn Rd
McMillan Rd
South Fraser Way
Gladys Ave
Old Yale Rd
CLEARBROOK
ABBOTSFORD
SUMAS
Abbotsford-Chilliwack
Lower Sumas Mountain Rd
City of Abbotsford
Ware St
Marshall Rd
Trans-Canada Hwy
Abbotsford-Aldergrove
NORTH POPLAR
Abbotsford Centre
McCallum Rd
SOUTH POPLAR
Huntingdon Rd
Vye Rd
Sumas Way
Whatcom Rd
HUNTINGDON
BRITISH COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
CANADA
USA
WASHINGTON
0 300 600
METERS

Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Abbotsford-Chilliwack Electoral District


British Columbia
Mission-Clayburn
Nicomen I
Abbotsford-Chilliwack
District Municipality of Chilliwack
City of Abbotsford
Chilliwack-Hope
Abbotsford Centre
HOLACHTEN
SKUMALASPH
LAKAHAHMEN
SKWEAHM
PAPEKWATCHIN
SUMAS CEMETERY
AYLECHOOTLOOK
SKWAY
SKWAH
SKOWKALE
TZEACHTEN
SOOWAHLIE
GRASS
UPPER SUMAS
Lougheed Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
Yale Rd
Keith Wilson Rd
Yarrow Central Rd
Vedder Mountain Rd
Columbia Valley Hwy
Edwards Rd
Vye Rd
Whatcom Rd
Page Rd
WASHINGTON
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Chilliwack-Hope Electoral District

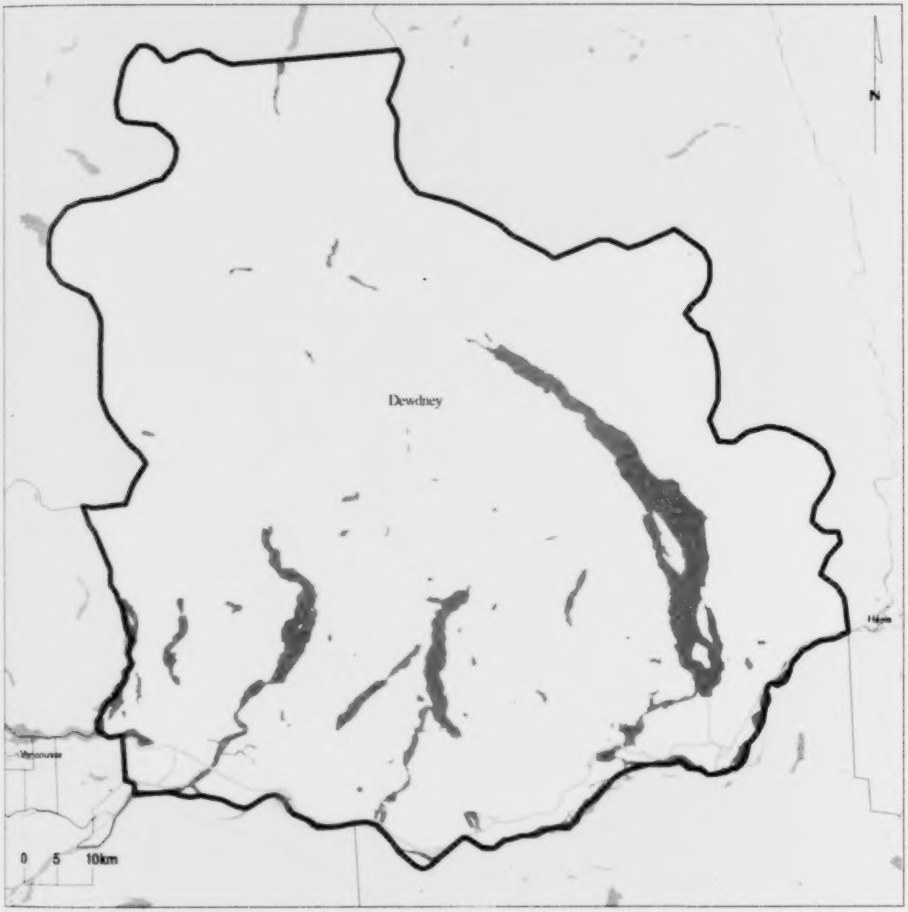

West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
Village of Lytton
Cariboo-Fraser
British Columbia
Merritt
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Chilliwack-Hope
Boundary-Similkameen
District of Hope
District Municipality of Kent
Village of Harrison Hot Springs
District Municipality of Chilliwack
Abbotsford-Chilliwack
See Inset Map
City of Abbotsford
WASHINGTON
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
Inset
SQUAWKUM CREEK
District Municipality of Kent
Lougheed Hwy
Mission-Clayburn
HOLACHTEN
SKUMALASPH
SKWALI
SKWAHLA
Vale Rd E
SKWAH
Trans-Canada Hwy
CHILLIWACK
GRASS
Chilliwack-Hope
Abbotsford-Chilliwack
District Municipality of Chilliwack
TZEACHTEN
SOOWAHLIE
0 4 8
KILOMETERS

H. The Tri-Cities Area

The geographical area that we describe as the Tri-Cities region is bounded by Indian Arm on the northwest, Burnaby and New Westminster on the southwest, the Fraser River on the south and the Pitt River on the east. It includes three cities – Port Moody, Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam – as well as the Villages of Anmore and Belcarra.

1. Evolution of the Tri-Cities electoral districts

Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission, there was one single-member electoral district (Dewdney) extending from Indian Arm east to Hope, on the north side of the Fraser River (see Tri-Cities, Map 1).

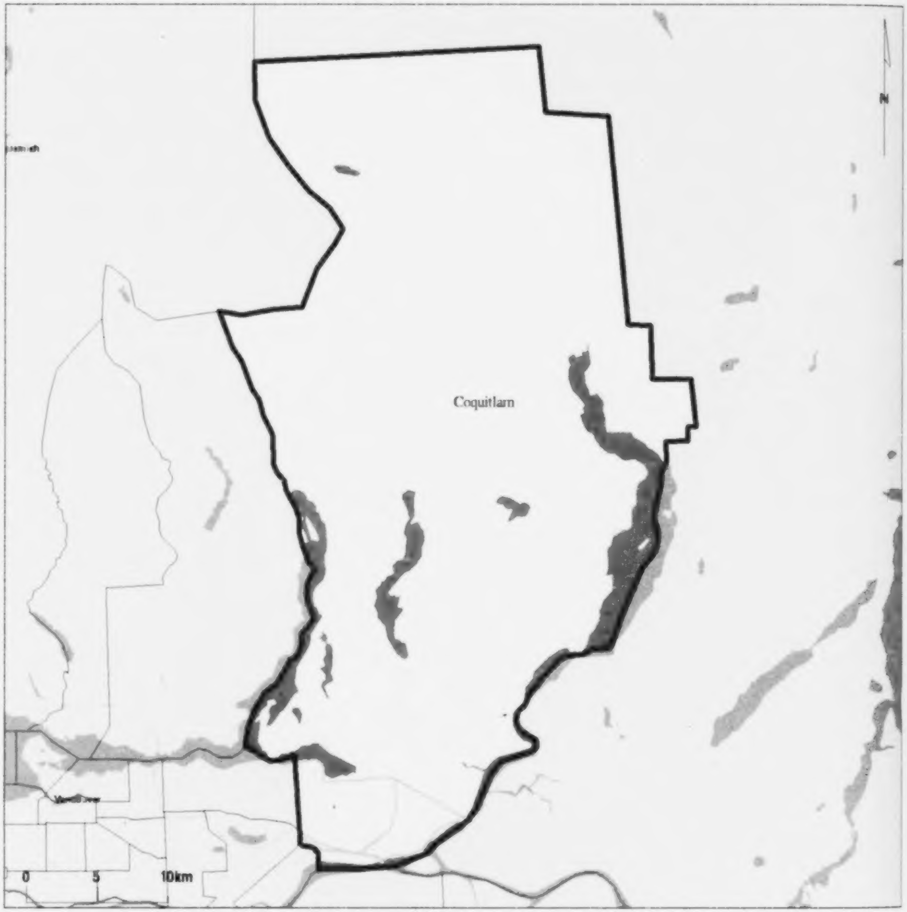


Tri-Cities, Map 1

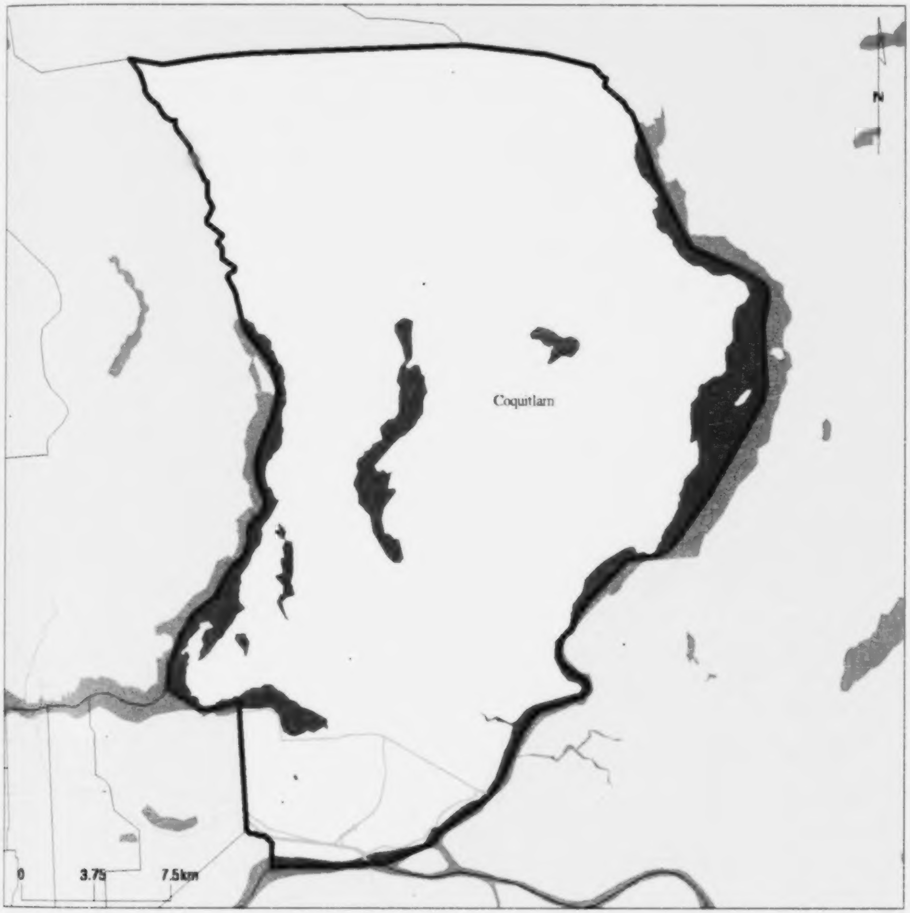
a. Angus Commission (1966)

The Angus Commission recommended that Dewdney be split into two single-member districts (see Tri-Cities, Map 2). The western portion, extending from Indian Arm and the eastern boundaries of the Burnaby and New Westminster electoral districts eastward to the Pitt River, would be named Coquitlam, encompassing all the area we now refer to as Tri-Cities.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations.



Tri-Cities, Map 2



b. The Norris Commission (1975)
Due to population growth and under-representation in the legislature, the Norris Commission recommended (Tri-Cities, Map 3) that the boundaries of the Coquitlam electoral district remain unchanged, but it should become a dual-member district.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.

Tri-Cities, Map 3

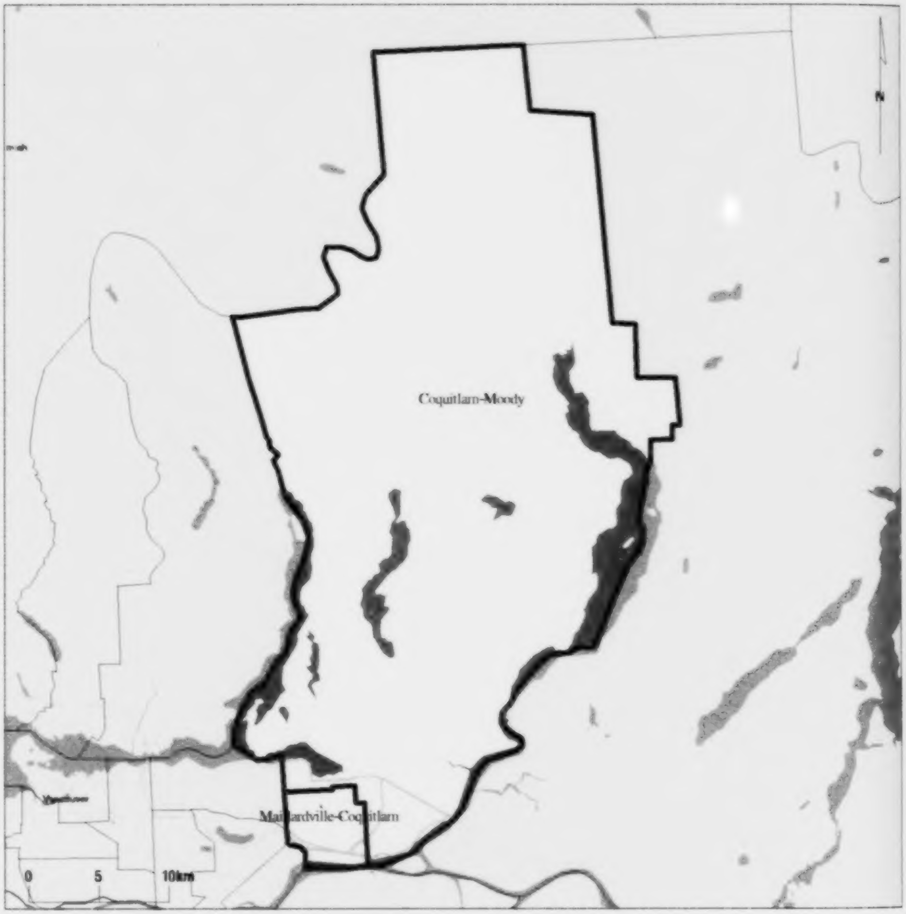
c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt recommended (see Tri-Cities, Map 4) that the Coquitlam electoral district be divided into two single-member districts:

- Maillardville-Coquitlam would be a comparatively small district, extending from the Burnaby district boundary east to Essondale and from the southern boundary of Port Moody south to the Fraser River.
- Coquitlam-Moody would consist of the municipalities of Port Moody, Port Coquitlam and the remainder of Coquitlam.

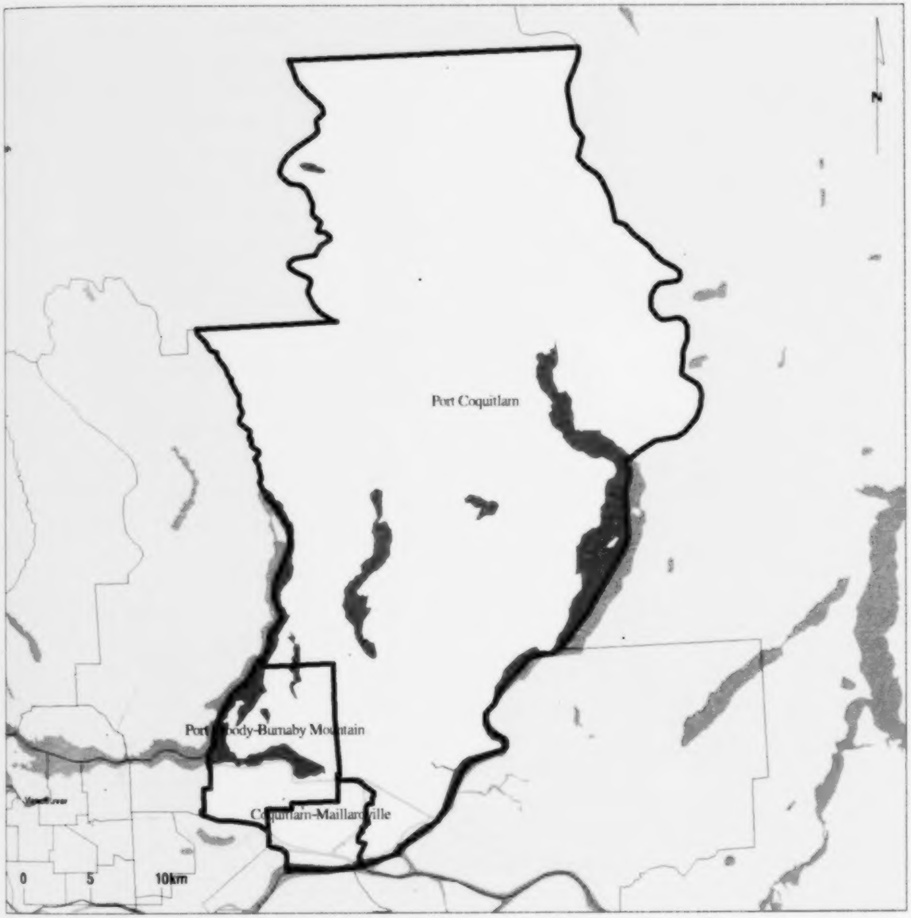
The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected these electoral districts.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected these electoral districts.



Tri-Cities, Map 4



Tri-Cities, Map 5

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
Judge Fisher recommended (see Tri-Cities, Map 5) that the number of districts be increased from two to three:

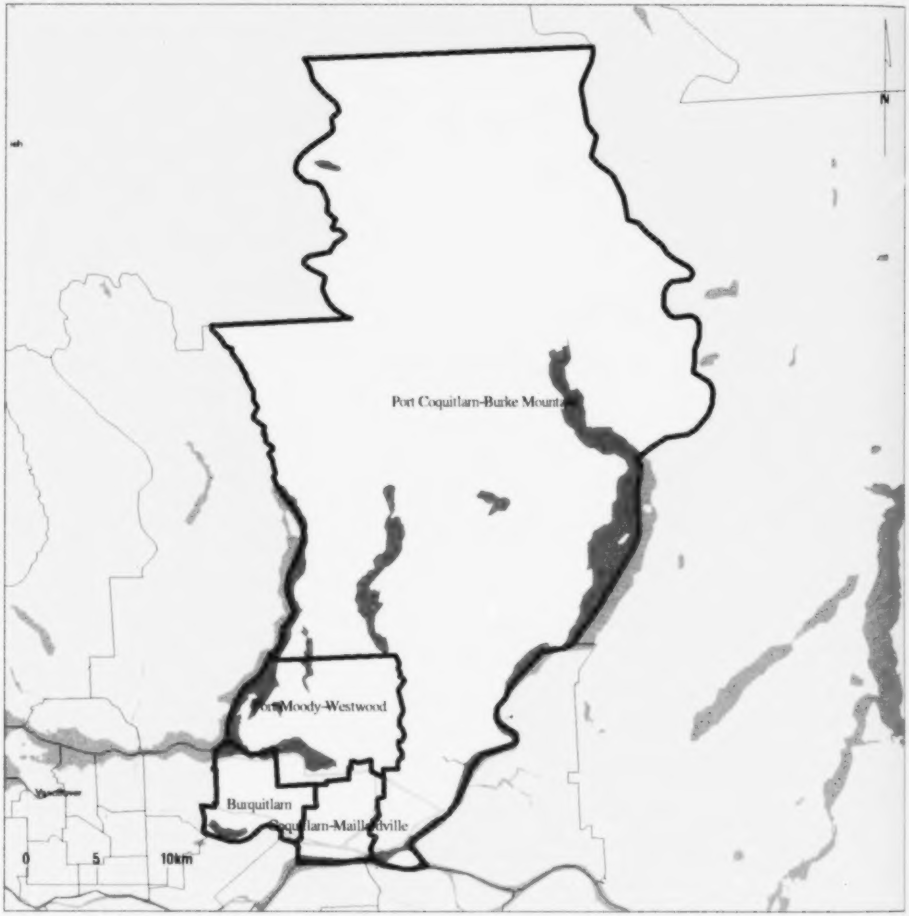
- Port Moody–Burnaby Mountain would be bounded on the west by Indian Arm and Duthie Road in Burnaby, on the south by Smith Avenue and Como Lake Avenue, and on the east by the Coquitlam district municipality's western boundary.
- Port Coquitlam would extend from the Coquitlam district municipality's western boundary eastward to the Pitt River.
- Coquitlam-Maillardville would be approximately the same as the existing Maillardville-Coquitlam district.

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Fisher's recommendations.

g. The Wood Commission (1999)
In its interim report, the Wood Commission noted that the population of the electoral district of Port Coquitlam had grown by 91 percent in the preceding decade, requiring significant

redrawing of electoral boundaries in the Tri-Cities area (Tri-Cities, Map 6):

- Port Moody–Burnaby Mountain – the commission accepted that there was a community of interest among the people residing in the mountain area on the north shore of Port Moody in Belcarra, Anmore and Heritage Mountain, and in the Eagle Ridge and Westwood Plateau areas of Coquitlam where there had been significant new development. It proposed extending the eastern boundary farther east into Coquitlam (to the Coquitlam River) and moving the southern boundary farther north to the southern municipal boundary of Port Moody, and re-naming the district Port Moody–Westwood.
- Coquitlam-Maillardville – this district would be bounded on the north by the proposed new Port Moody–Westwood district, on the west by the proposed new Burquitlam district, on the south by the Fraser River and on the east by the Coquitlam municipal border.
- Port Coquitlam – this district (which the commission proposed be named Port Coquitlam–Burke Mountain) combined parts of the cities of Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam. The commission heard no significant objection to this arrangement, and



Tri-Cities, Map 6

recommended that the electoral district be preserved in large part, except that the Coquitlam River be used as part of the western boundary.

- Burquitlam – the increase in population also necessitated an electoral district that included parts of Burnaby and Coquitlam, extending eastward to Blue Mountain Street and Gatensbury Street.

The commission was satisfied that these changes would allow for the continued population growth expected due to development in the Town Centre and northeast areas of Coquitlam. Although the City of Coquitlam requested electoral districts wholly within its municipal boundaries, the fact that Coquitlam's high population was located adjacent to the smaller communities of Port Moody and Port Coquitlam led the commission to conclude that some overlap of the municipal boundaries was necessary in order to create electoral districts with appropriate populations.

In its final report, the commission considered, but ultimately rejected, several proposed changes:

- The City of Coquitlam expressed dissatisfaction with the degree to which Coquitlam shared electoral districts with adjacent municipalities. It provided the commission with two alternative maps – with three and four electoral districts in the Tri-Cities area, respectively. Although the city accepted the necessity of electoral districts shared with Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Anmore and Belcarra, it urged the commission to avoid creating an electoral district shared between Coquitlam and Burnaby. The Wood Commission concluded that adopting the City of Coquitlam's proposals for three or four electoral districts in the Tri-Cities area would produce deviations that were too high. The three-district proposal would have two electoral districts in excess of plus 20 percent, and the four-district proposal would have one electoral district at plus 26 percent.
- Residents of Coquitlam-Maillardville living between Guildford Way and the Barnet Highway felt that they should be included in Port Moody–Westwood, as the Barnet Highway would leave them somewhat isolated from Coquitlam-Maillardville. However, the commission concluded that including these 4,000 people would produce too high a positive deviation in Port Moody–Westwood, where continued high growth was expected.
- It was suggested that the western boundary of Coquitlam-Maillardville should run straight along Blue Mountain Street, but the commission concluded that including an additional 3,100 people from the Burquitlam electoral district in this district would produce too high a deviation.
- The western boundary of the Port Coquitlam–Burke Mountain electoral district followed the Coquitlam River, except for one triangular section west of the river, which some people suggested should become part of Coquitlam-Maillardville. However, this boundary followed the Port Coquitlam municipal boundary, and the commission decided that those residents of Port Coquitlam west of the river should most logically be included in an electoral district with other residents of Port Coquitlam.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all the Wood Commission's recommendations.

2. Our analysis of the Tri-Cities electoral districts

The geographical area that we describe as the Tri-Cities region now has three electoral districts, plus approximately 42 percent of the Burquitlam electoral district (see map on page 190). These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 17):

TABLE 17: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE TRI-CITIES

Electoral District	1996 deviation*	2006 deviation**
Port Moody–Westwood	+5%	+30.6%
Coquitlam-Maillardville	+4.9%	-4%
Port Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	+6.9%	+9.4%
Burquitlam	+8.8%	+2.5%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

The total population of the current three Tri-Cities electoral districts is 174,947. We are satisfied that those residents of the current Burquitlam district who live within the City of Coquitlam (pop. 22,331) should be included in a Tri-Cities–based district. That brings the total population of the Tri-Cities region to 197,278. Rebalancing that population among four electoral districts yields an average deviation of minus 5.3 percent (based on 79 electoral districts), quite appropriate for such a fast-growing urban area. Consequently, we are satisfied that the Tri-Cities region should have four electoral districts.

In deciding how to configure electoral districts within this region, we began with examining the physical configuration of the five municipalities in this region, and how the population is distributed among them:

Coquitlam	114,565
Port Coquitlam	52,687
Port Moody	27,512
Anmore	1,785
Belcarra	676
TOTAL	****197,278**

** The total population of our Tri-Cities region (The above total does not include 53 persons on the First Nations Reserve and other unincorporated areas that are a part of the electoral district population for this region.)

Since the 1999 Wood Commission, there has been significant growth in the Westwood Plateau area of Port Moody and Coquitlam, and in the Burke Mountain area of Coquitlam. We were advised that growth in these areas has peaked, and that the most pronounced future growth will take place in the Coquitlam Town Centre area and in the city's southwest quadrant.

As mentioned earlier, in urban areas, we attempted to design electoral districts that correspond to municipal boundaries where possible, because in our view municipalities are good indicators of long-standing community interests.

The current Port Moody–Westwood electoral district, with 68,000 people and a deviation of plus 30.6 percent, has too many residents for a single electoral district. We decided to combine all of Port Moody, the Villages of Anmore and Belcarra, a portion of southwest Coquitlam beginning at North Road on the Burnaby-Coquitlam boundary, following the southern boundary east along Austin Avenue to Schoolhouse Street, north along Schoolhouse and Crestwood Streets, then continuing east along Ingersoll and Brookmount Avenues, and Balmoral Street to the Port Moody–Coquitlam municipal boundary. This created a district with 51,539 people, and a deviation of plus 1.5 percent. This approach would bring three municipalities into the one electoral district that we propose be called Port Moody–Coquitlam (see map of proposed Port Moody–Coquitlam electoral district page 192).

The next area we considered was the City of Port Coquitlam. Its 2006 census population is 52,687. If the city were to constitute one electoral district, it would have a deviation of plus 3.8 percent. Given our desire to respect municipal boundaries whenever possible in the development of electoral districts, we are satisfied that the population of the City of Port Coquitlam is close enough to parity to justify its own electoral district. We believe there should be a new Port Coquitlam electoral district that corresponds exactly to the municipal boundaries. The proposed Port Coquitlam electoral district includes the Coquitlam 2 Indian Reserve that has five people (see map of proposed Port Coquitlam electoral district page 193).

We then balanced the remaining Coquitlam population between two electoral districts, using the Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way as the divider. We propose naming the electoral district in the southwest Coquitlam-Maillardville, and the electoral district in the northwest Coquitlam–Burke Mountain. They will have deviations of minus 8.8 percent and minus 8 percent, respectively (see maps of proposed Coquitlam-Maillardville and Coquitlam–Burke Mountain electoral districts pages 194-195).

3. Conclusion

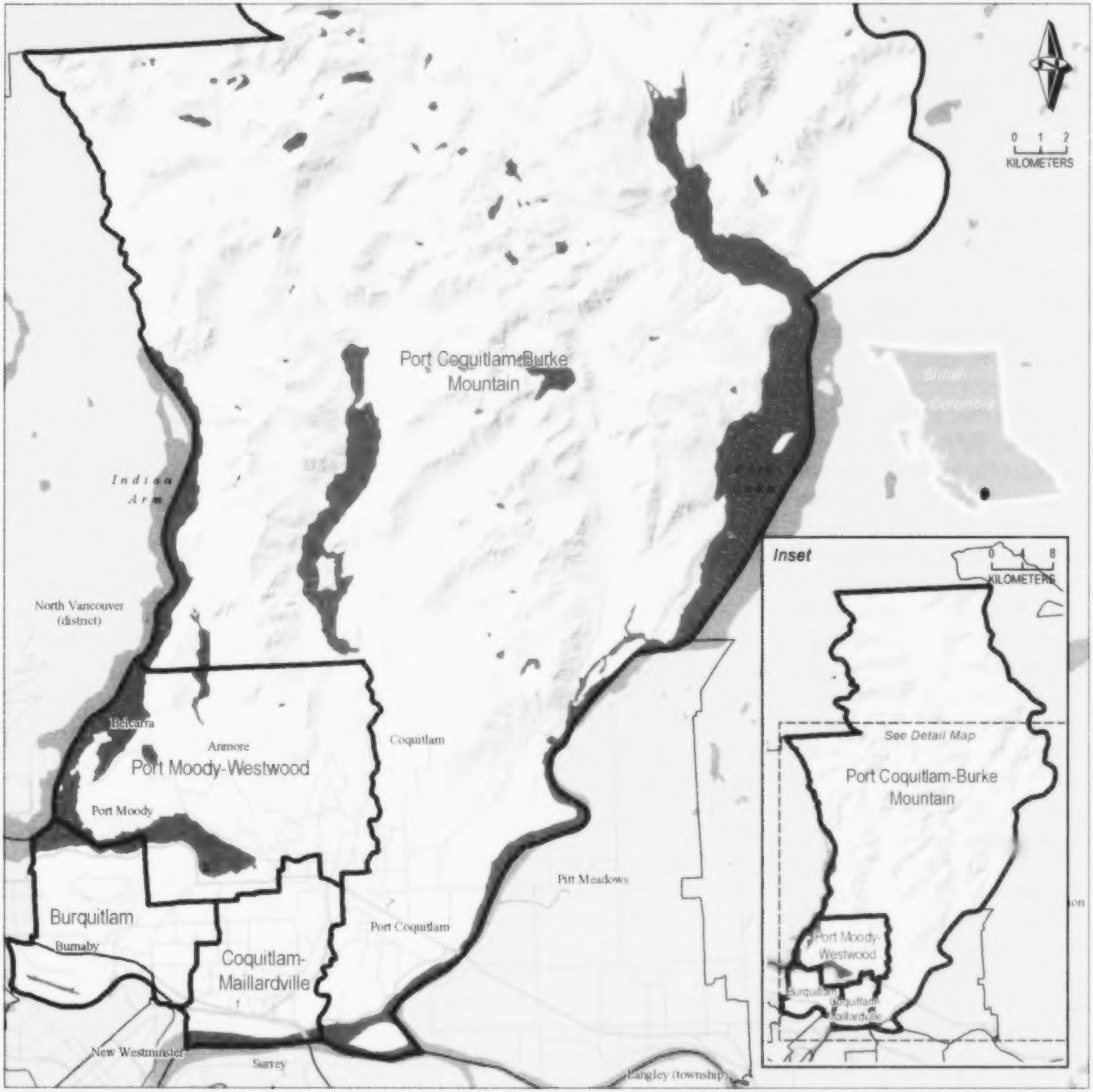
Accordingly, we propose that there be four electoral districts in the Tri-Cities region, as follows:

TABLE 18: PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE TRI-CITIES REGION

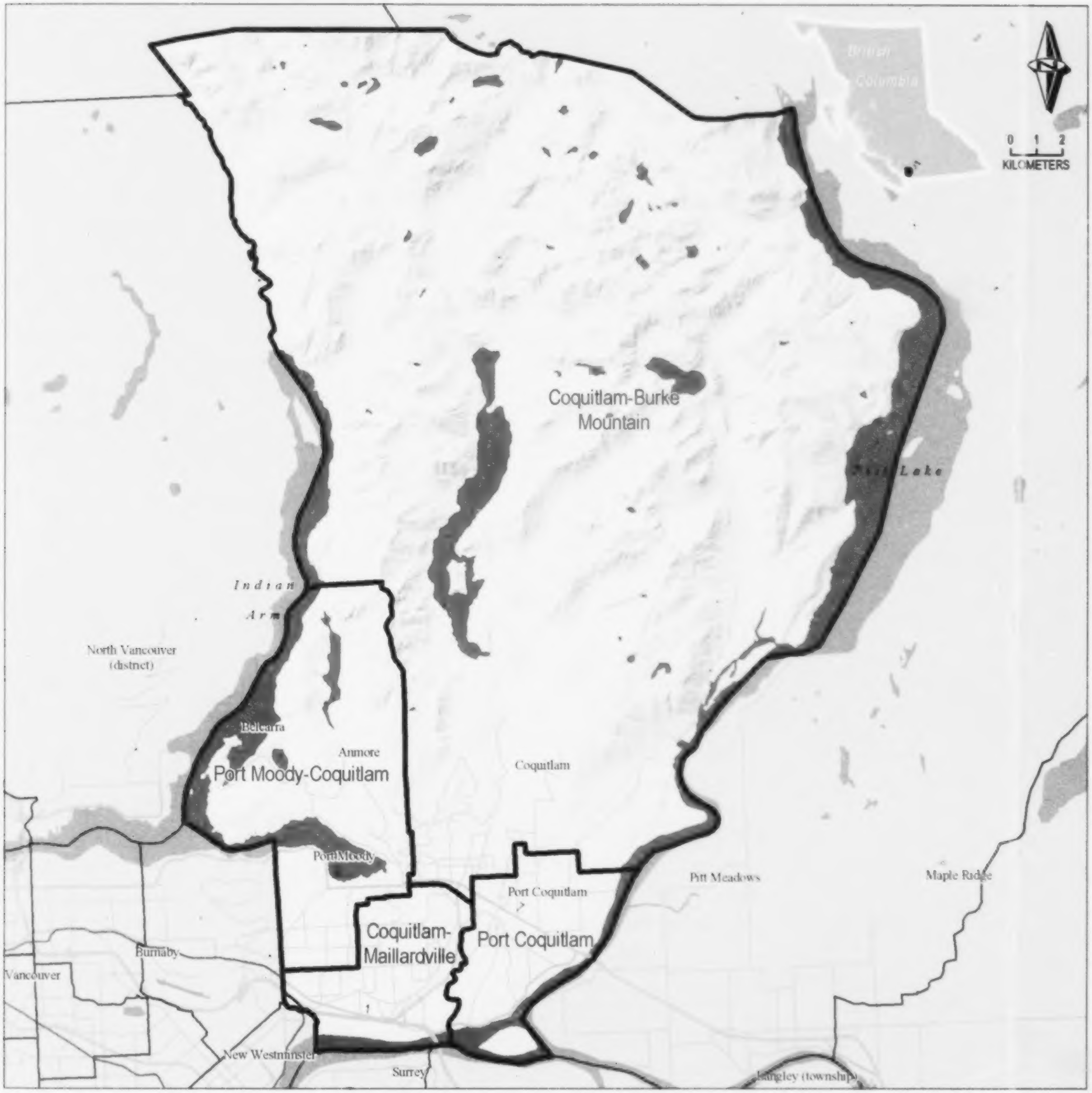
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Port Moody–Coquitlam	83	51,539	+1.5%
Coquitlam-Maillardville	30	46,315	-8.8%
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	615	46,732	-8%
Port Coquitlam	35	52,692	+3.8%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

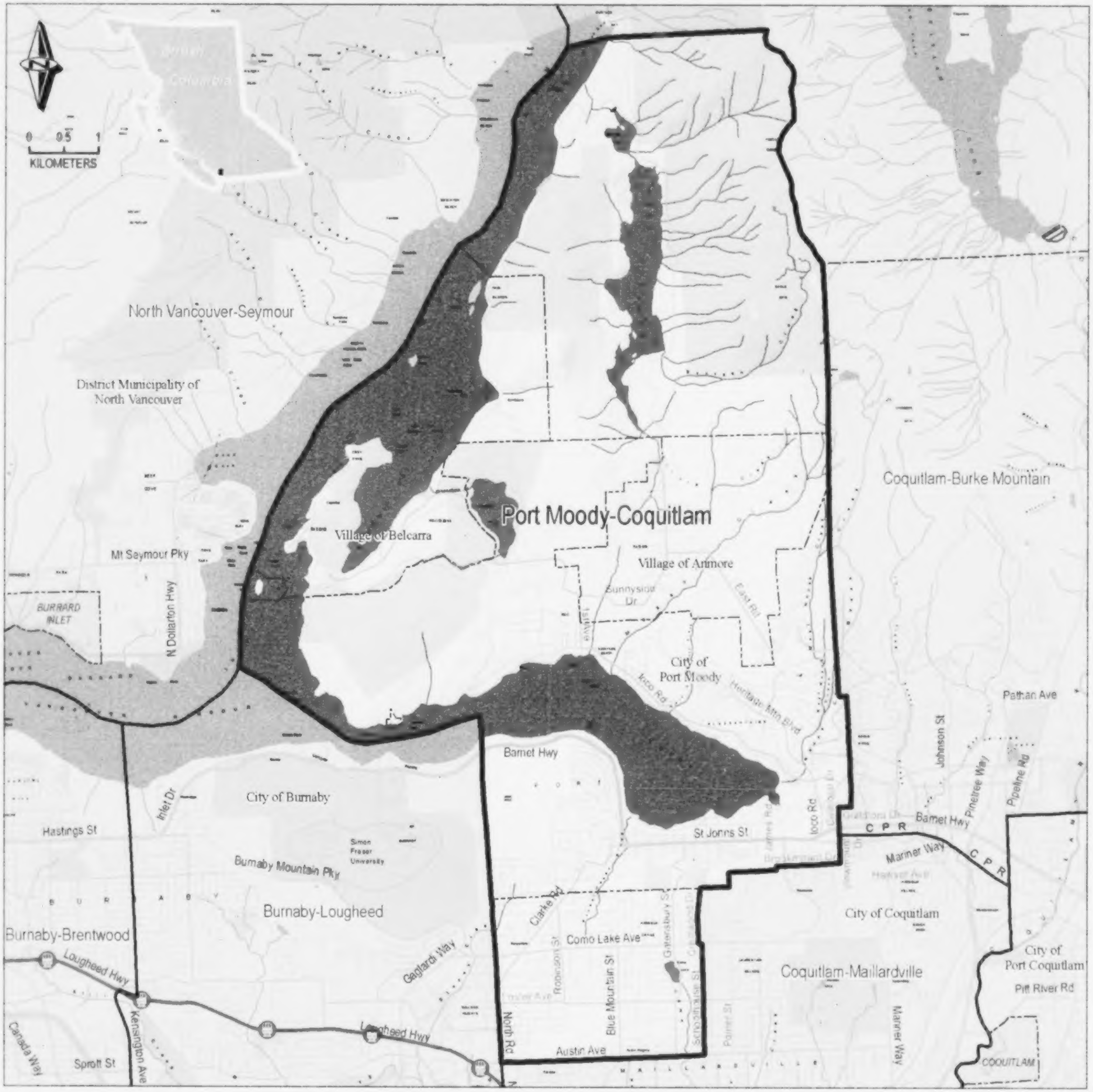
Region: Tri-Cities – Current Electoral Districts


0 1 2
KILOMETERS
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
British Columbia
Indian Arm
Pitt Lake
North Vancouver (district)
Belcarra
Anmore
Coquitlam
Port Moody-Westwood
Port Moody
Pitt Meadows
Burquitlam
Burnaby
Port Coquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville
New Westminster
Surrey
Langley (township)
Inset
0 4 8
KILOMETERS
See Detail Map
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
Port Moody-Westwood
Burquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville

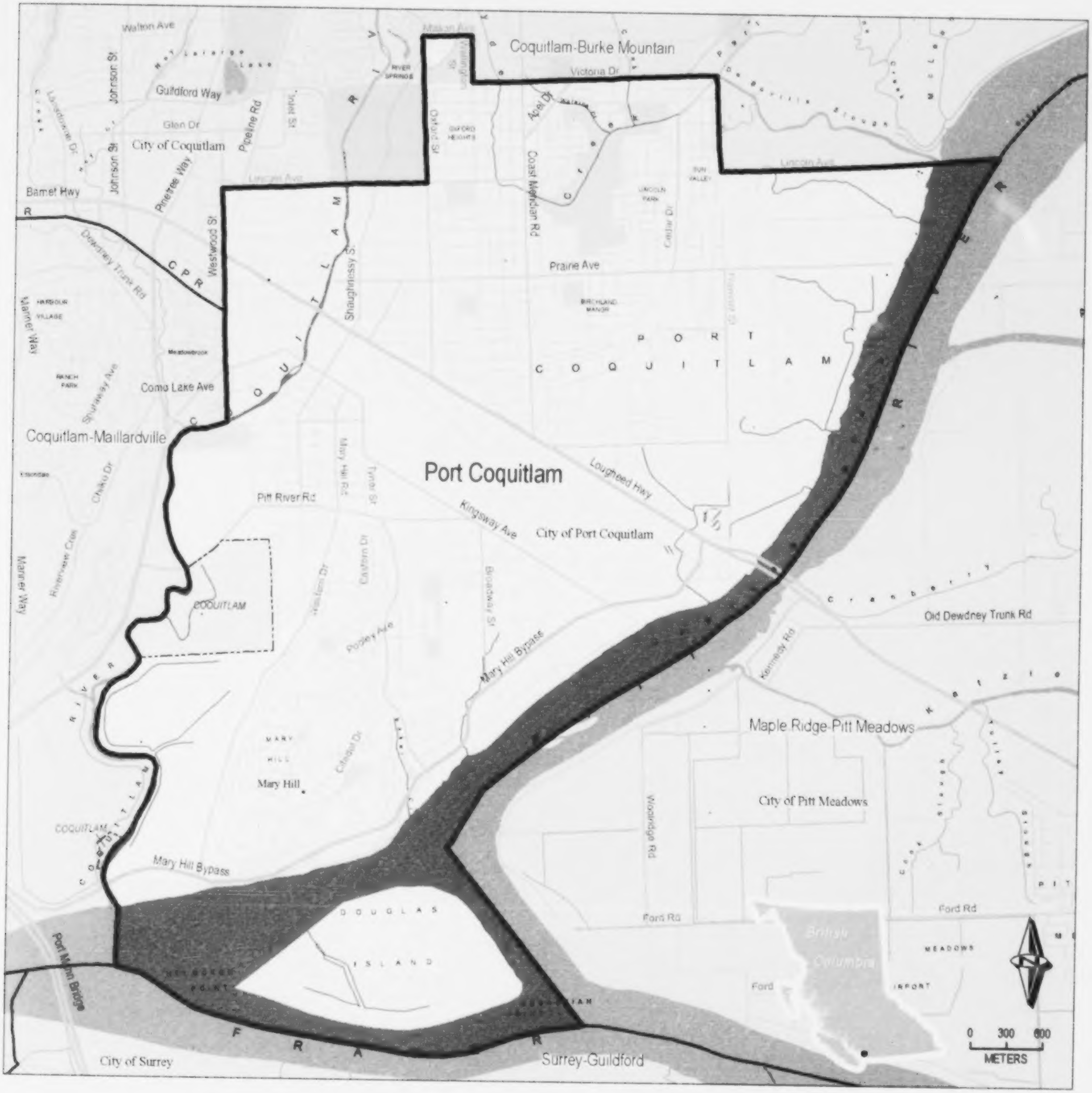
Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Electoral Districts


British Columbia
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
Pitt Lake
Indian Arm
North Vancouver (district)
Belcarra
Anmore
Port Moody-Coquitlam
Coquitlam
Port Moody
Port Coquitlam
Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge
Coquitlam-Maillardville
Port Coquitlam
Burnaby
Vancouver
New Westminster
Surrey
Langley (township)

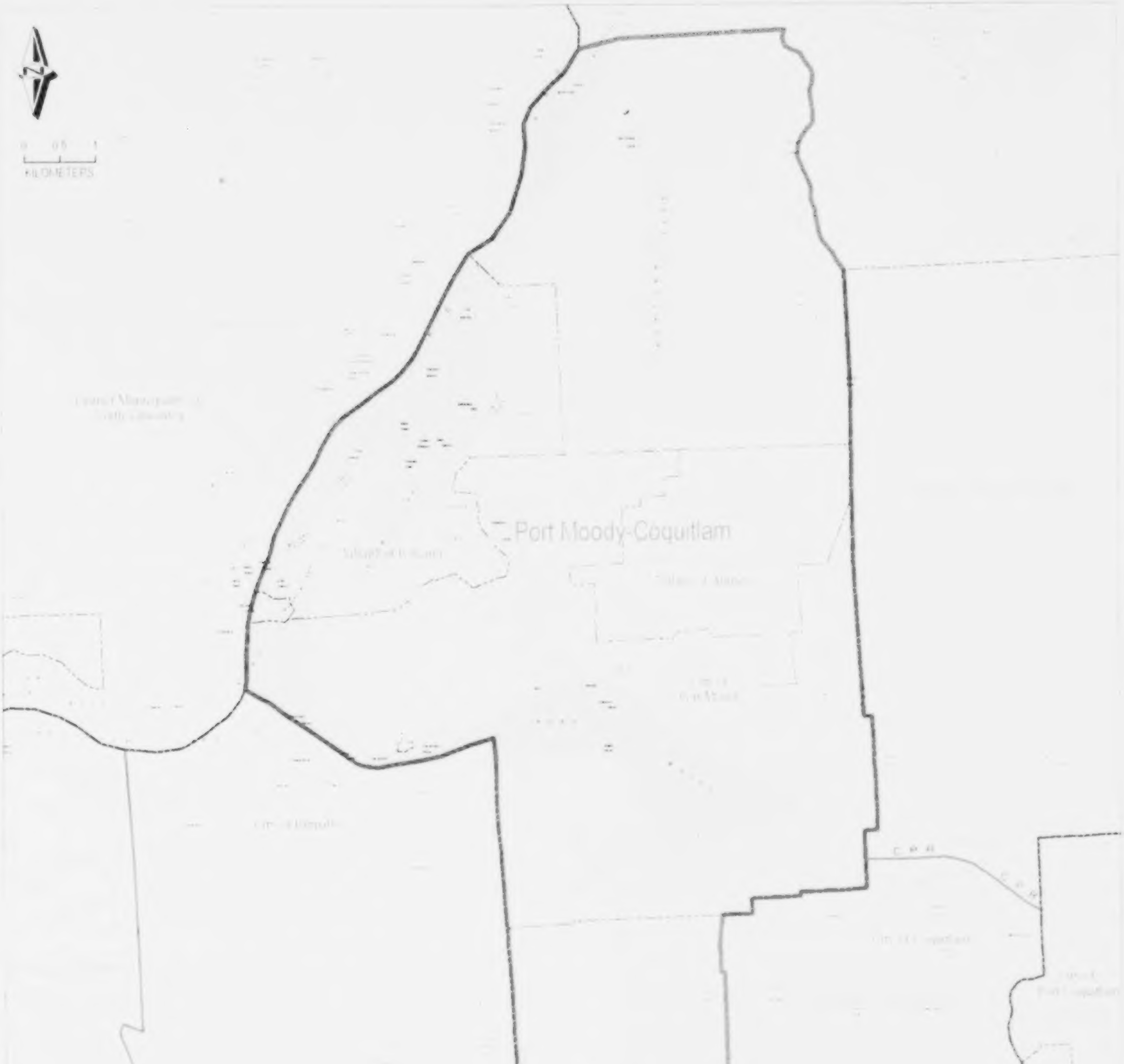
Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Port Moody–Coquitlam Electoral District


British Columbia
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
North Vancouver-Seymour
District Municipality of North Vancouver
Mt Seymour Pky
N Dollarton Hwy
BURRARD INLET
Port Moody-Coquitlam
Village of Belcarra
Village of Anmore
Sunnyside Dr
East Rd
City of Port Moody
Ioco Rd
Heritage Mtn Blvd
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
Pathan Ave
Johnson St
Pinetree Way
Pipeline Rd
Barnet Hwy
Inlet Dr
City of Burnaby
Hastings St
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby Mountain Pky
Burnaby-Lougheed
Burnaby-Brentwood
Lougheed Hwy
Gaglardi Way
Canada Way
Sproat St
Kensington Ave
St Johns St
Ioco Rd
C P R
Mariner Way
Clarke Rd
Como Lake Ave
Robinson St
Blue Mountain St
Gatensbury St
Schoolhouse St
North Rd
Austin Ave
Poirier St
City of Coquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville
Mariner Way
City of Port Coquitlam
Pitt River Rd
COQUITLAM

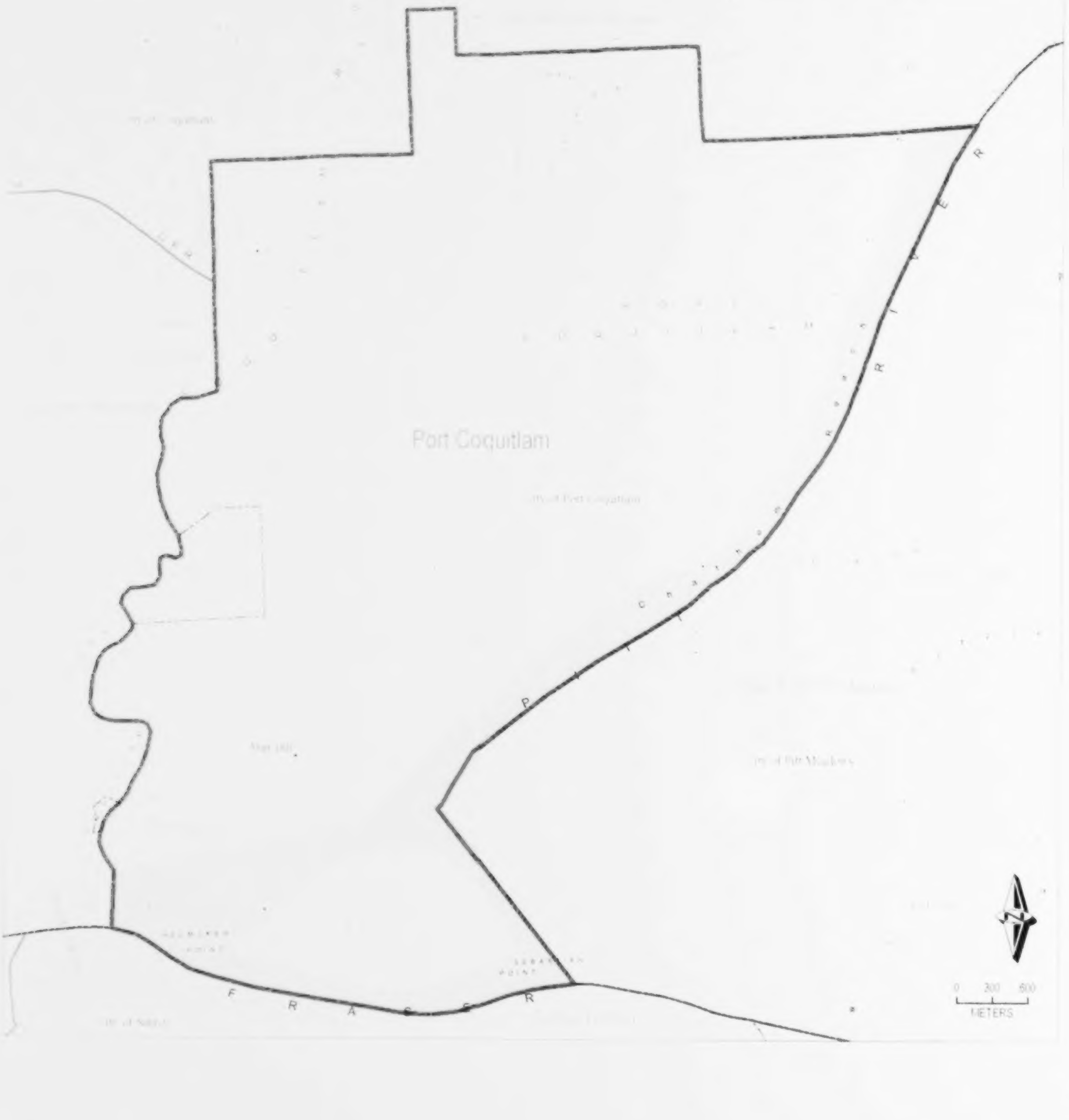
Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Port Coquitlam Electoral District


Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
Victoria Dr
Walton Ave
Guildford Way
Johnson St
Glen Dr
City of Coquitlam
Pipeline Rd
Pinetree Way
Barnet Hwy
CPR
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Westwood St
Shaughnessy St
Oxford St
Coast Meridian Rd
Apel Dr
Lincoln Ave
Prairie Ave
PORT COQUITLAM
Como Lake Ave
Coquitlam-Maillardville
Port Coquitlam
Lougheed Hwy
Pitt River Rd
Kingsway Ave
City of Port Coquitlam
Mary Hill Rd
Tyner St
Broadway St
COQUITLAM
Pooley Ave
Mary Hill Bypass
Cranberry
Old Dewdney Trunk Rd
Kennedy Rd
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Mary Hill
City of Pitt Meadows
Woolridge Rd
Ford Rd
DOUGLAS ISLAND
Port Mann Bridge
FRASER
City of Surrey
Surrey-Guildford
British Columbia
0 300 600
METERS
Mariner Way
Chilko Dr
RIVER
COQUITLAM RIVER
PITT RIVER

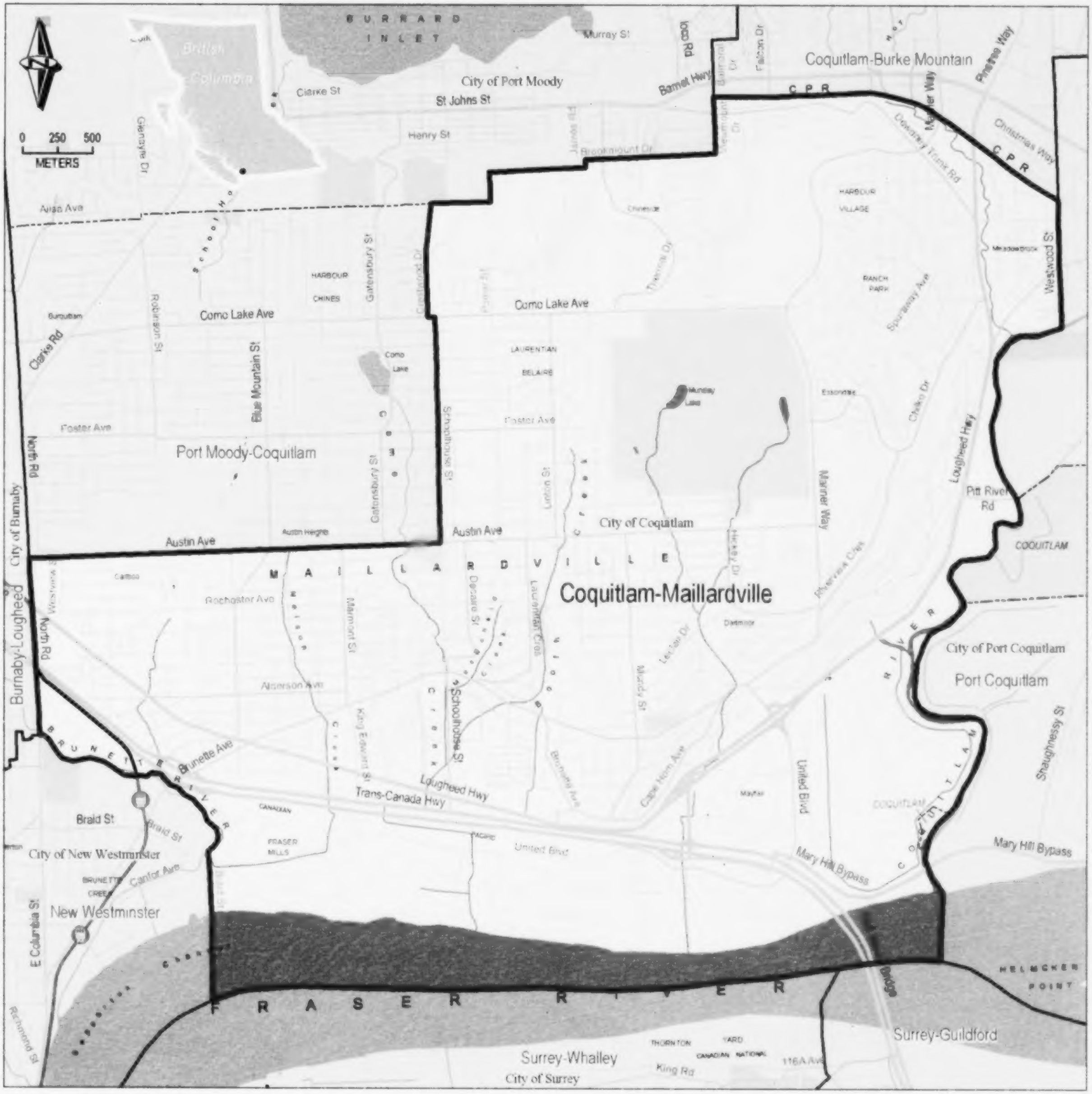
Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Port Moody-Coquitlam Electoral District


0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
District Municipality of North Vancouver
Port Moody-Coquitlam
Village of Belcarra
Village of Anmore
City of Port Moody
City of Burnaby
C P R
C P R
City of Coquitlam
City of Port Coquitlam

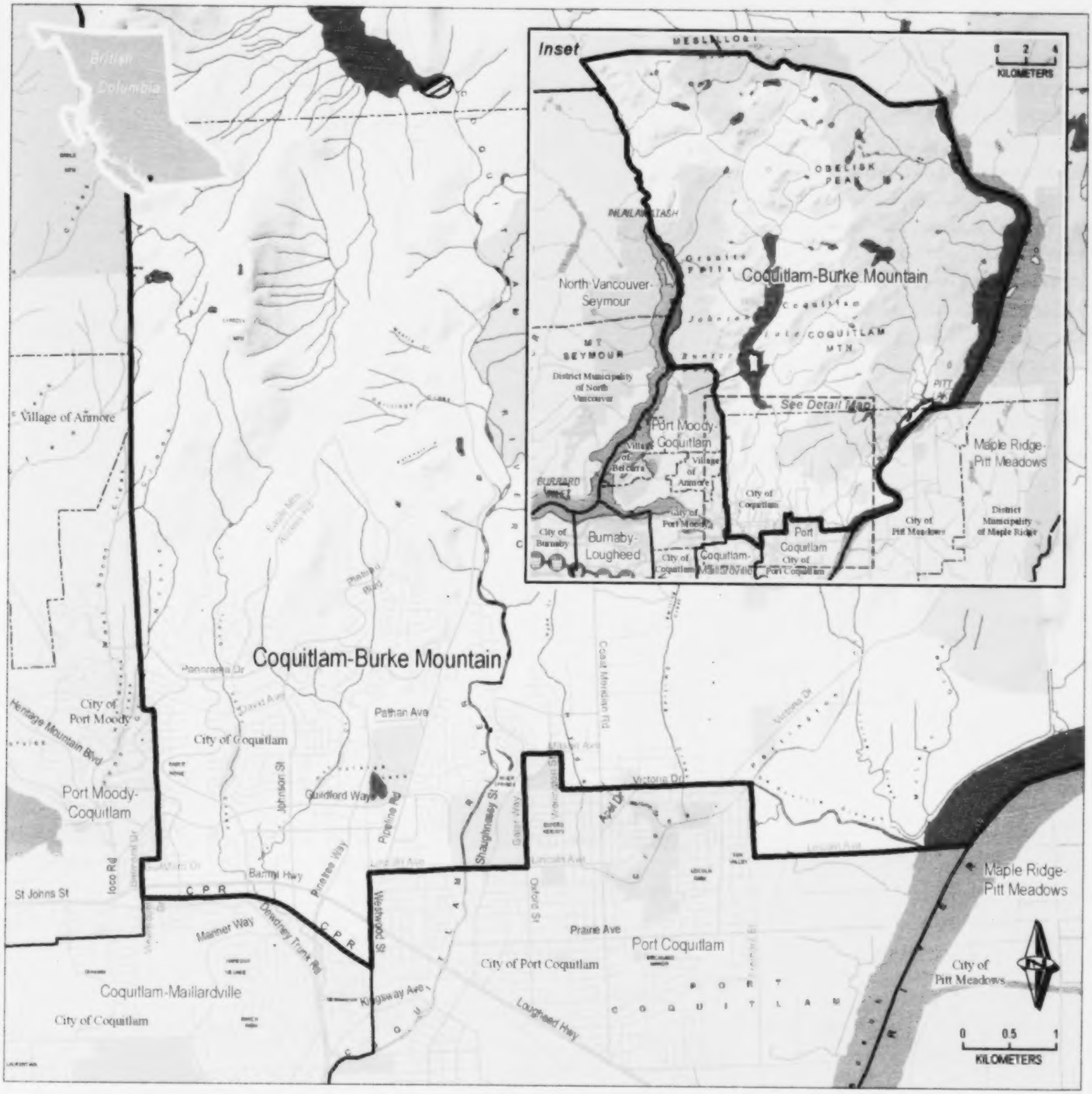
Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Port Coquitlam Electoral District


Port Coquitlam
City of Port Coquitlam
City of Pitt Meadows
PITT RIVER
FRASER R
0 300 600
METERS

Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Coquitlam-Maillardville Electoral District


BURRARD INLET
British Columbia
0 250 500
METERS
Murray St
Ioco Rd
Falcon Dr
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
Pinetree Way
City of Port Moody
Clarke St
St Johns St
Barnet Hwy
CPR
Henry St
Brookmount Dr
Christmas Way
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Mariner Way
Glenayre Dr
Alias Ave
School Ho
HARBOUR VILLAGE
HARBOUR CHINES
Gatensbury St
Como Lake Ave
Westwood St
RANCH PARK
Spuraway Ave
Robinson St
Clarke Rd
LAURENTIAN
BELAIRE
Como Lake
Mundy Lake
Blue Mountain St
Foster Ave
Schoolhouse St
Lougheed Hwy
Port Moody-Coquitlam
North Rd
City of Burnaby
Union St
Mariner Way
Pitt River Rd
Austin Ave
City of Coquitlam
COQUITLAM
Austin Heights
MAILLARDVILLE
Rochester Ave
Marmont St
Laurentian Cres
Coquitlam-Maillardville
Burnaby-Lougheed
Hickey Dr
Riverview Cres
Decaire St
Lebleu St
City of Port Coquitlam
Port Coquitlam
Alderson Ave
King Edward St
Mundy St
Shaughnessy St
Brunette Ave
BRUNETTE RIVER
Cape Horn Ave
Lougheed Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
United Blvd
COQUITLAM RIVER
Braid St
CANADIAN
FRASER MILLS
PACIFIC
City of New Westminster
Mary Hill Bypass
BRUNETTE CREEK
Canfor Ave
New Westminster
E Columbia St
Bridge
HELMCKEN POINT
FRASER RIVER
Richmond St
Surrey-Guildford
Surrey-Whalley
THORNTON YARD
CANADIAN NATIONAL
116A Ave
King Rd
City of Surrey

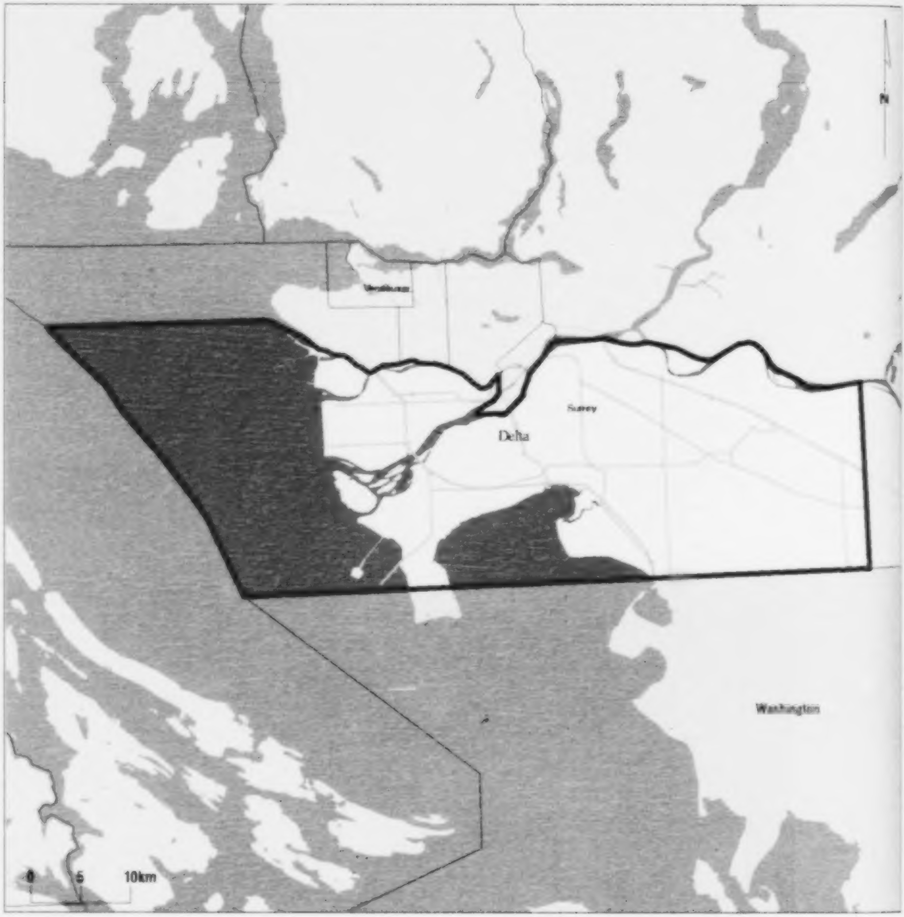
Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Coquitlam–Burke Mountain Electoral District


British Columbia
Inset
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
OBELISK PEAK
Granite Falls
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
North Vancouver-Seymour
Coquitlam
Johnson
COQUITLAM MTN
MT SEYMOUR
District Municipality of North Vancouver
PITT LAKE
See Detail Map
Port Moody-Coquitlam
Village of Belcarra
Village of Anmore
BURRARD INLET
City of Coquitlam
City of Port Moody
City of Burnaby
Burnaby-Lougheed
City of Coquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville
Port Coquitlam
City of Port Coquitlam
City of Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
District Municipality of Maple Ridge
Village of Anmore
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
Panorama Dr
David Ave
Pathan Ave
City of Port Moody
Heritage Mountain Blvd
City of Coquitlam
Port Moody-Coquitlam
Johnson St
Guildford Way
Pipeline Rd
Pinetree Way
Barnet Hwy
Shaughnessy St
Coast Meridian Rd
Victoria Dr
Lincoln Ave
Oxford St
Ioco Rd
St Johns St
C P R
Mariner Way
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Westwood St
Kingsway Ave
Lougheed Hwy
Prairie Ave
Port Coquitlam
City of Port Coquitlam
P O R T C O Q U I T L A M
Coquitlam-Maillardville
City of Coquitlam
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
City of Pitt Meadows
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS

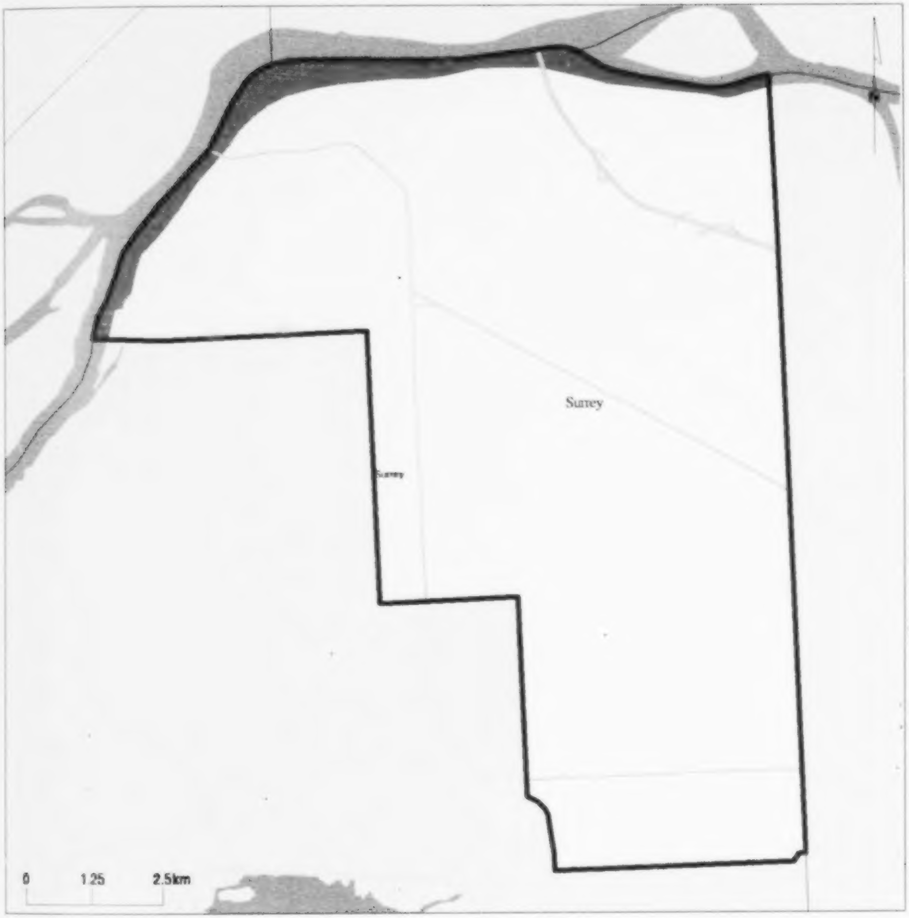
I. Surrey

1. Evolution of Surrey's electoral districts

Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, Surrey was part of the Delta electoral district, which included Richmond, Delta, Surrey, White Rock and Langley, and which elected two MLAs (see Surrey, Map 1).


N
Vancouver
Surrey
Delta
Washington
0
5
10km

Surrey, Map 1



Surrey, Map 2

a. The Angus Commission (1966)
The Angus Commission recommended that the two-member Delta electoral district be divided into four single-member electoral districts, to be called Langley, Surrey, Delta and Richmond (see Surrey, Map 2). The Surrey electoral district would include the Whalley and Newton areas, as far south as 48th Avenue (the area south of 48th Avenue, including White Rock, was part of the proposed Delta electoral district).

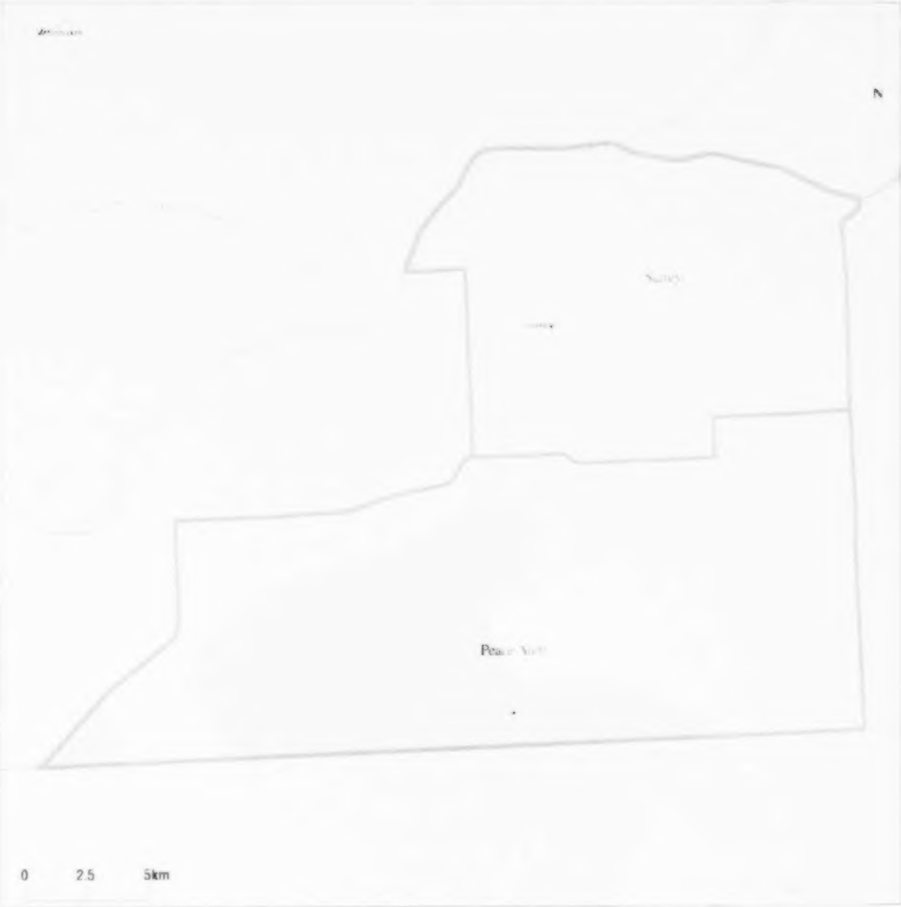
The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations.

A) The Norris Commission (1978)

Because of this area's growth in population and under-representation in the legislature, the Norris Commission recommended (see Surrey, Map 3) that:

- the single-member electoral district of Surrey be changed to a two-member district, and that it be increased in size, to be bounded by the Fraser River on the north, Scott Road on the west, Highway 10 on the south and the Langley municipal boundary on the east; and,
- a new single-member Peace Arch electoral district be created south of Highway 10, including Cloverdale, White Rock, Crescent Beach and Boundary Bay.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.



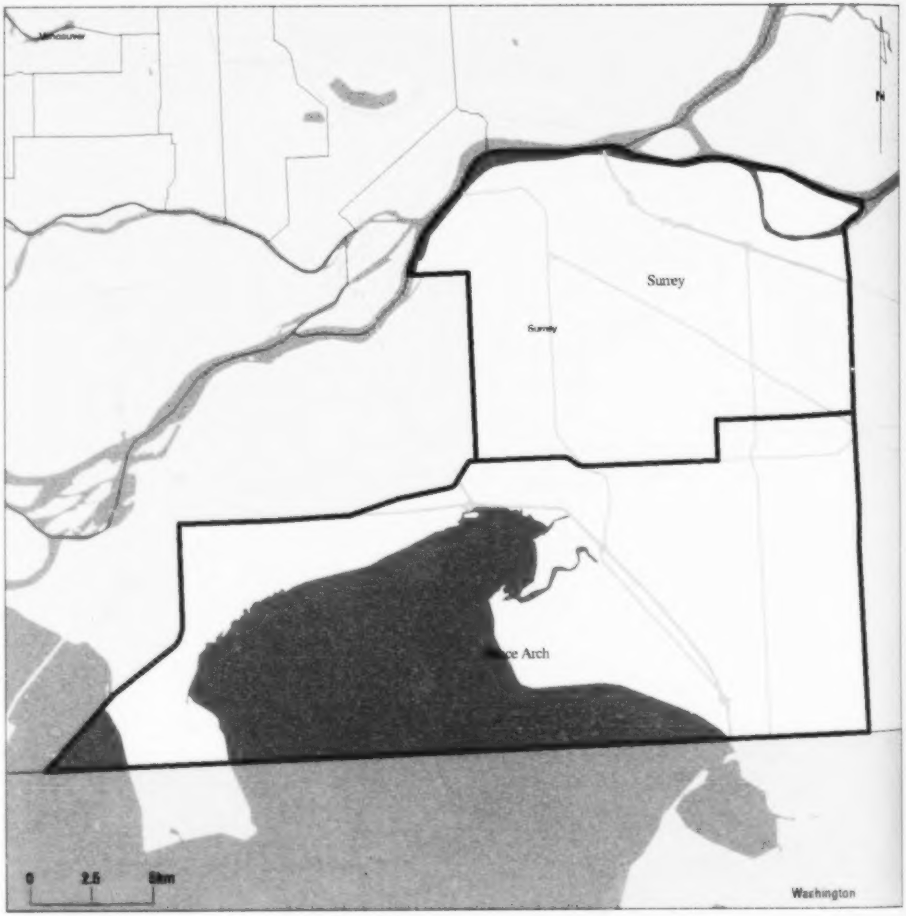
Surrey, Map 3

b. The Norris Commission (1975)

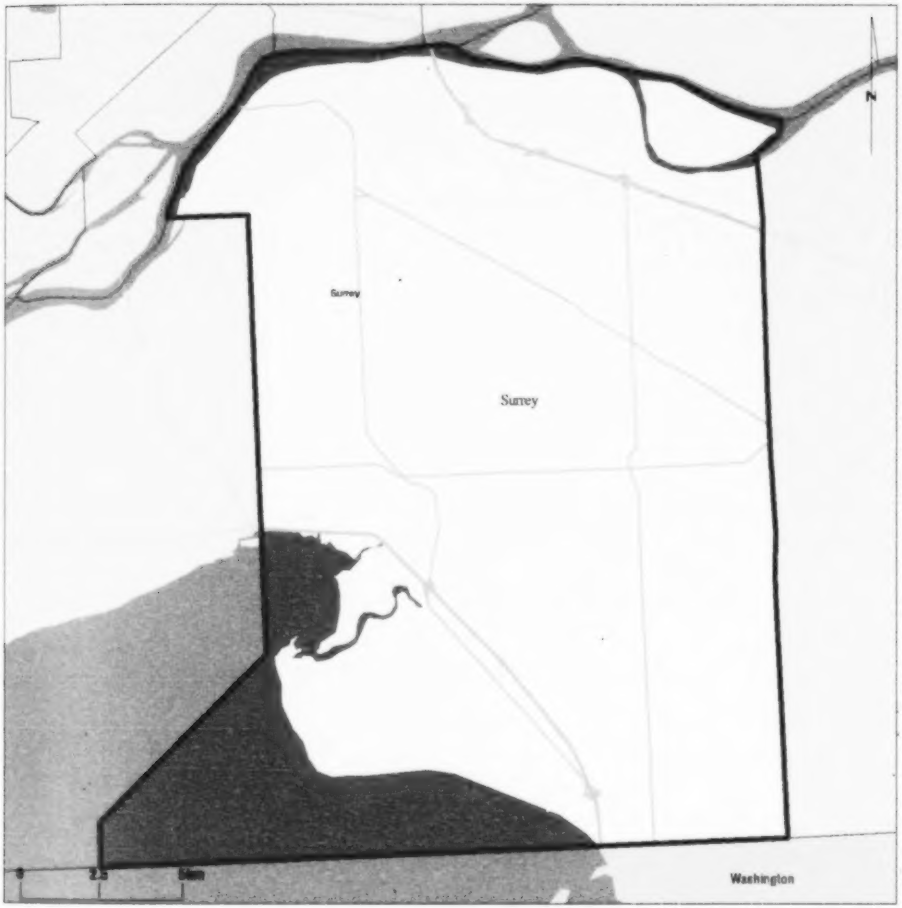
Because of this area's growth in population and under-representation in the legislature, the Norris Commission recommended (see Surrey, Map 3) that:

- the single-member electoral district of Surrey be changed to a two-member district, and that it be increased in size, to be bounded by the Fraser River on the north, Scott Road on the west, Highway 10 on the south and the Langley municipal boundary on the east; and,
- a new single-member Peace Arch electoral district be created south of Highway 10, including Cloverdale, White Rock, Crescent Beach and Boundary Bay.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.



Surrey, Map 3



Surrey, Map 4

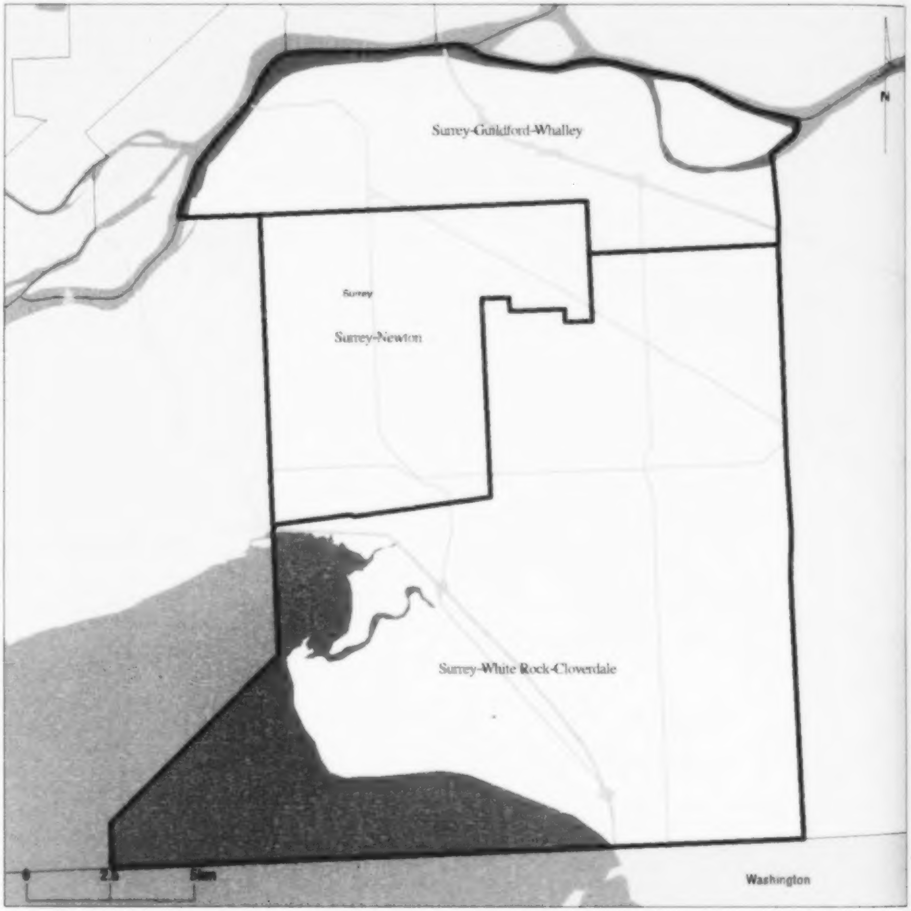
c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt agreed with submissions that an increase in population in this area warranted greater representation and that, wherever possible, he should follow municipal boundaries. He recommended (see Surrey, Map 4) that the Surrey electoral district be enlarged to follow the Surrey municipal boundaries (the Fraser River on the north, the Surrey-Langley municipal boundary (196th Street) on the east, the U.S. border on the south and the Surrey-Delta municipal boundary (120th Street) on the west), and become a dual-member district.

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

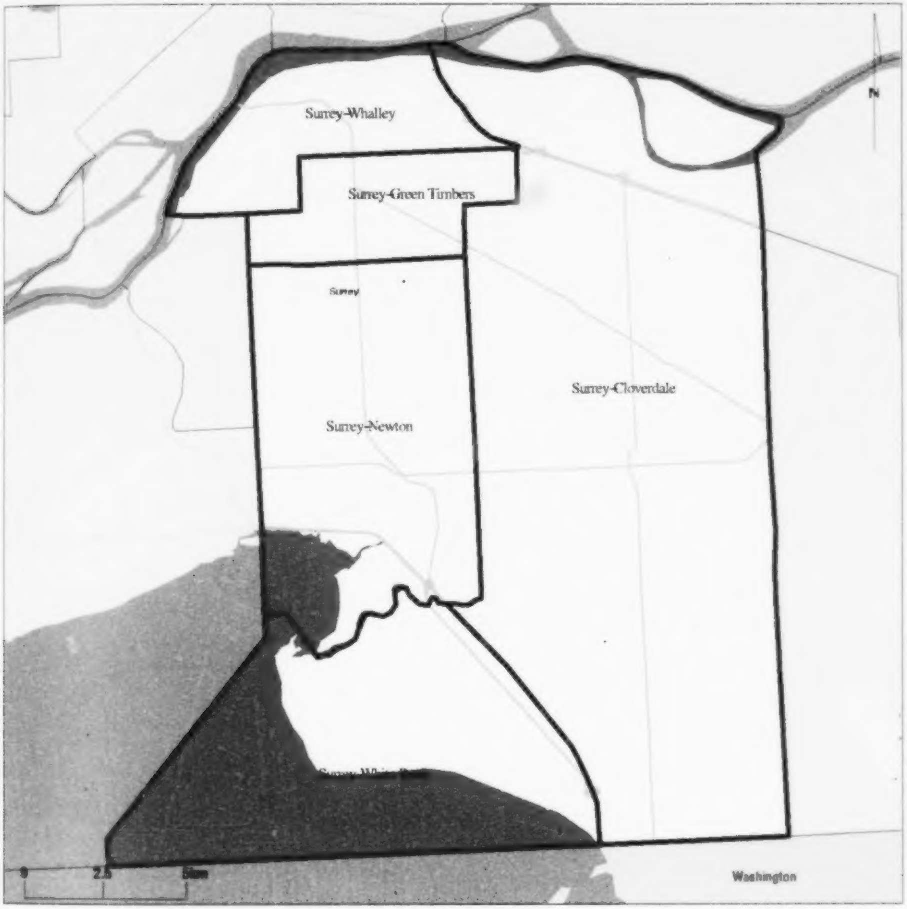
d. The Warren Commission (1982)
Mr. Warren recommended that the two-member Surrey electoral district become a three-member district. The Legislative Assembly did not adopt Mr. Warren's recommendation.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
Since the two-member Surrey electoral district exceeded the 60 percent threshold established in legislation, the McAdam Commission recommended (see Surrey, Map 5) that it be converted into three single-member districts (to be named Surrey-North, Surrey-Centre and Surrey-South). In proposing boundaries, the commission took into account historical and geographical divisions, as well as urban centres and rural areas. Following public hearings, the commission made no changes to its proposed boundaries, but recommended that the new electoral districts be named Surrey–Guildford–Whalley, Surrey-Newton, and Surrey–White Rock–Cloverdale.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the McAdam Commission's recommendations.


N
Surrey-Guildford-Whalley
Surrey
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-White Rock-Cloverdale
Washington
0
2.5
5km

Surrey, Map 5



Surrey, Map 6

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)

In his interim report, Judge Fisher recommended that the number of electoral districts within the municipalities of Surrey and White Rock be increased from three to five.

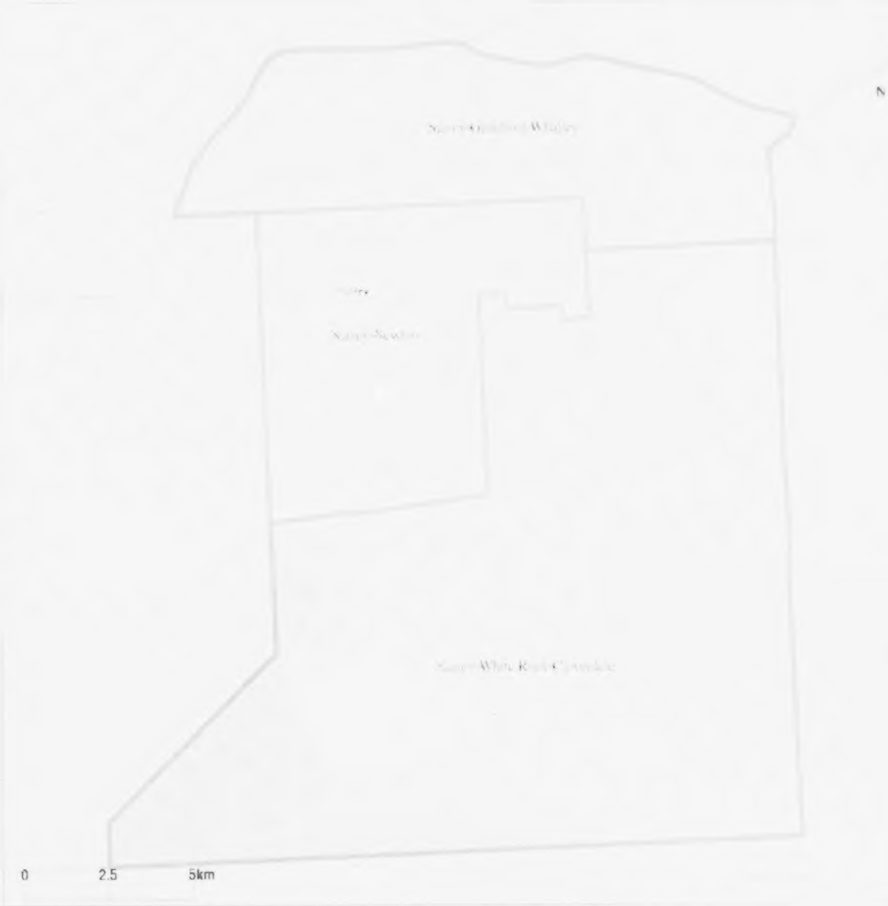
In his final report, Judge Fisher recommended several name changes, so that the five electoral districts would be called (from north to south) Surrey-Whalley, Surrey–Green Timbers, Surrey-Cloverdale, Surrey-Newton and Surrey–White Rock. The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Fisher's recommendations (see Surrey, Map 6).

g. The Wood Commission (1999)

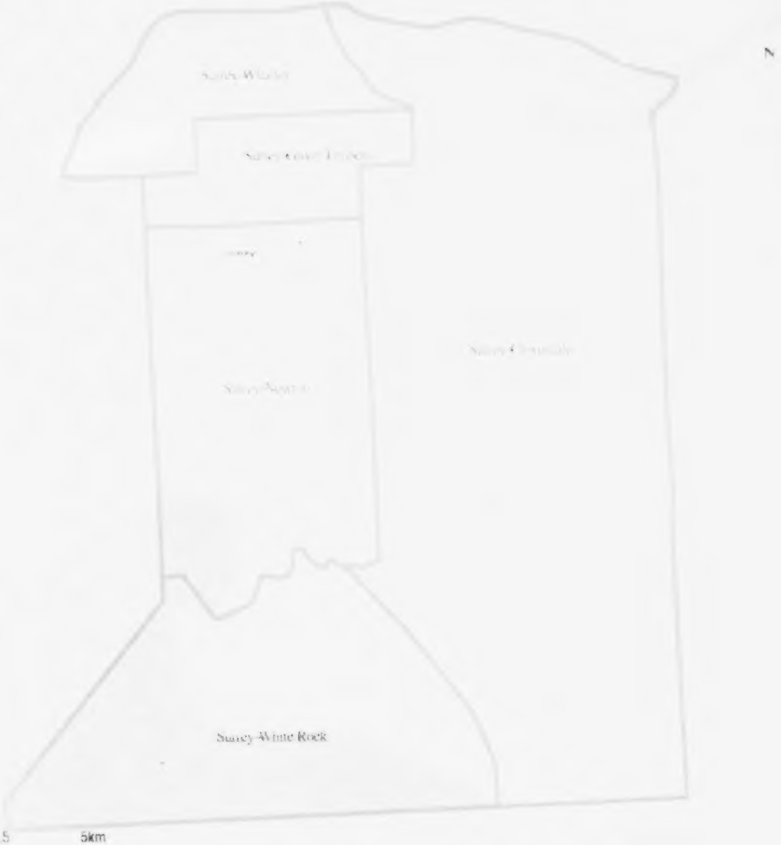
In its interim report, the Wood Commission noted that the City of Surrey had experienced the highest population increase in the province since the 1986 census, with a doubling of population in two electoral districts. A further 20 percent population increase was projected over the next three years. Based on a 79-seat Legislative Assembly, the Surrey–White Rock area was entitled to see its electoral districts increase from five to seven.

Since the two member Surrey electoral district exceeded the 60 percent threshold established in legislation, the McAdam Commission recommended (see Surrey, Map 5) that it be converted into three single-member districts (to be named Surrey-North, Surrey-Centre and Surrey-South). In proposing boundaries, the commission took into account historical and geographical divisions, as well as urban centres and rural areas. Following public hearings, the commission made no changes to its proposed boundaries, but recommended that the new electoral districts be named Surrey–Guildford–Whalley, Surrey–Newton, and Surrey–White Rock–Cloverdale.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the McAdam Commission's recommendations.


N
Surrey-Guildford-Whalley
Surrey
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-White Rock-Cloverdale
0
2.5
5km

Surrey, Map 5



Surrey, Map 6

The Fisher Commission (1988)

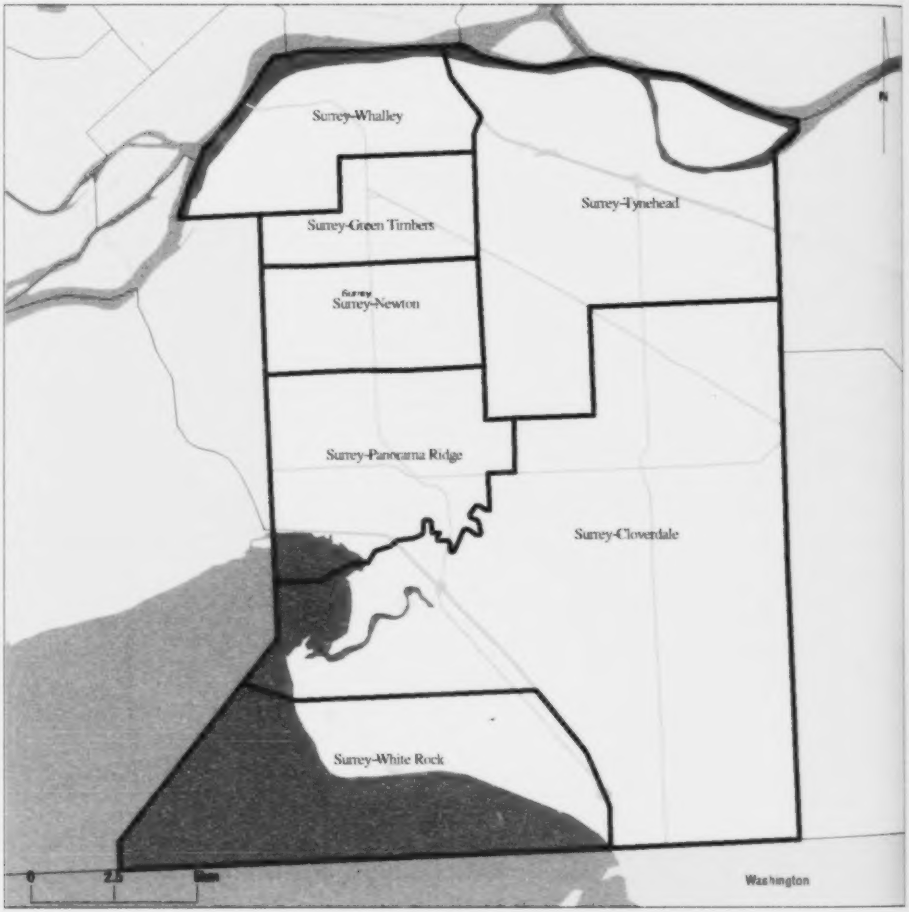
In his interim report, Judge Fisher recommended that the number of electoral districts within the municipalities of Surrey and White Rock be increased from three to five.

In his final report, Judge Fisher recommended several name changes, so that the five electoral districts would be called (from north to south) Surrey-Whalley, Surrey–Green Timbers, Surrey-Cloverdale, Surrey-Newton and Surrey–White Rock. The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Fisher's recommendations (see Surrey, Map 6).

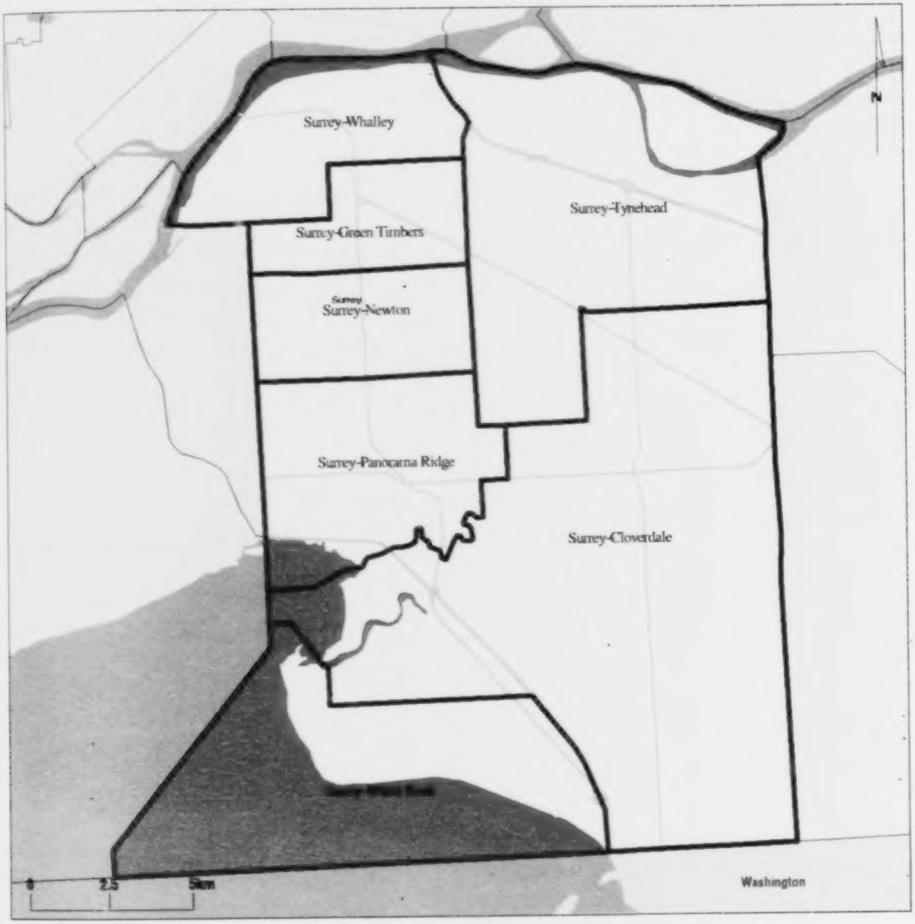
The Wood Commission

In its interim report, the Wood Commission noted that the City of Surrey had experienced the highest population increase in the province since the 1986 census, with a doubling of population in two electoral districts. A further 20 percent population increase was projected over the next three years. Based on a 79-seat Legislative Assembly, the Surrey–White Rock area was entitled to see its electoral districts increase from five to seven.

In recommending seven electoral districts (see Surrey, Map 7), the commission tried to distribute population in a relatively even way among the electoral districts, while making allowances for areas of expected growth. It also took into account the detailed submissions provided by the City of Surrey, which proposed specific boundaries. It created a new Surrey-Tynehead district in the northeast quadrant and a new Surrey–Panorama Ridge district south of the Newton area. Due to population growth in the Surrey–White Rock district and a troubling negative deviation in the Surrey-Cloverdale district, the commission moved Surrey–White Rock's northern boundary farther south from the Nicomekl River to 24th Avenue.


Surrey-Whalley
Surrey-Tynehead
Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-Panorama Ridge
Surrey-Cloverdale
Surrey-White Rock
Washington
0
2.5
5km
N

Surrey, Map 7

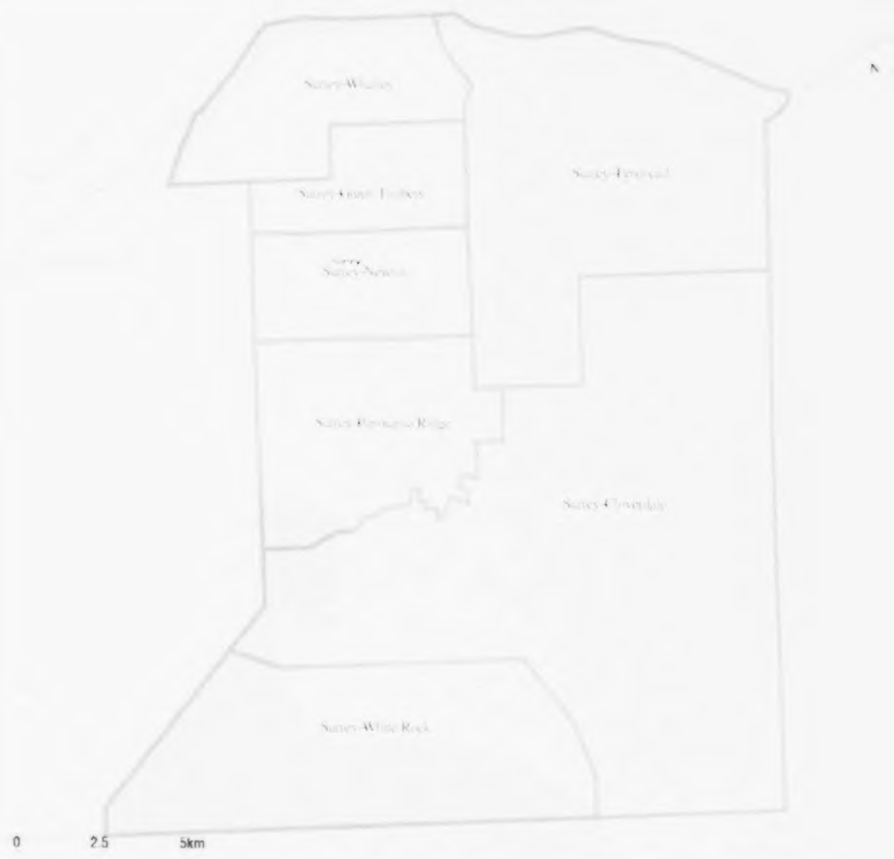

N
Surrey-Whalley
Surrey-Tynehead
Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-Panorama Ridge
Surrey-Cloverdale
0
2.5
5km
Washington

In its final report, the Wood Commission made only one boundary change (see Surrey, Map 8), adjusting the northwest corner of Surrey–White Rock to include Crescent Beach and Crescent Heights in the same electoral district as the City of White Rock.

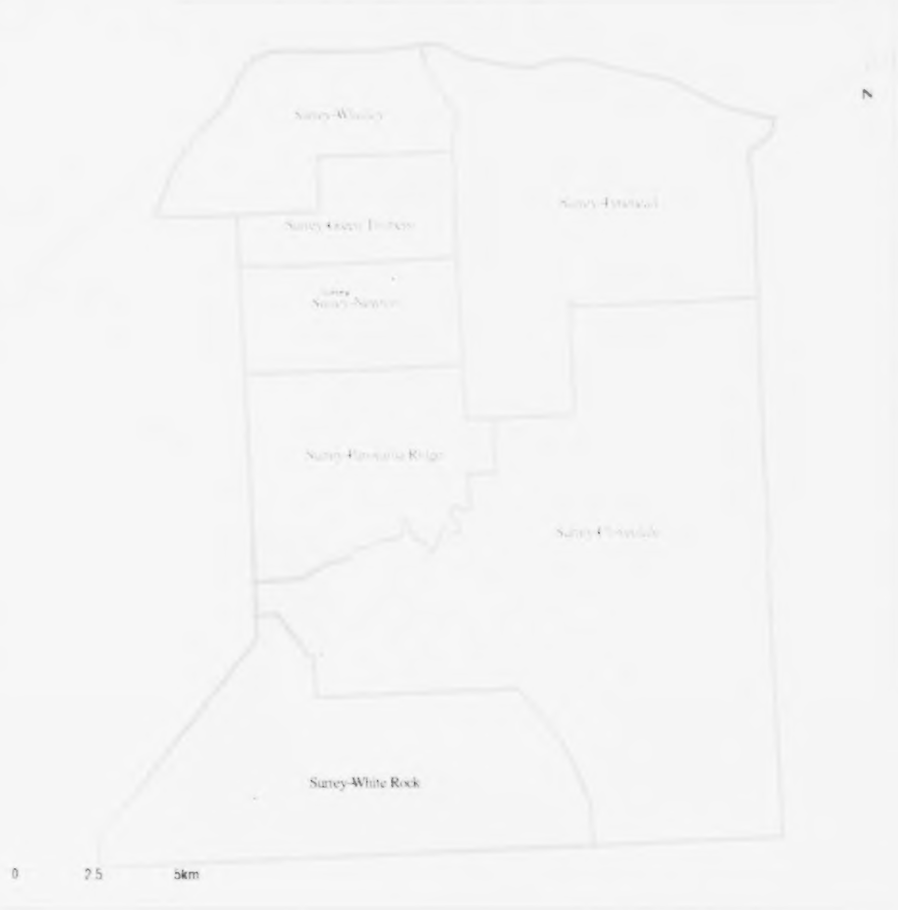
The Legislative Assembly adopted the Wood Commission's recommendations.

Surrey, Map 8

In recommending seven electoral districts (see Surrey, Map 7), the commission tried to distribute population in a relatively even way among the electoral districts, while making allowances for areas of expected growth. It also took into account the detailed submissions provided by the City of Surrey, which proposed specific boundaries. It created a new Surrey-Tynehead district in the northeast quadrant and a new Surrey–Panorama Ridge district south of the Newton area. Due to population growth in the Surrey–White Rock district and a troubling negative deviation in the Surrey-Cloverdale district, the commission moved Surrey–White Rock's northern boundary farther south from the Nicomekl River to 24th Avenue.


N
Surrey-Whalley
Surrey-Tynehead
Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-Panorama Ridge
Surrey-Cloverdale
Surrey-White Rock
0
2.5
5km

Surrey, Map 7


Surrey-Whalley
Surrey-Tynehead
Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-Panorama Ridge
Surrey-Cloverdale
Surrey-White Rock
N
0
2.5
5km

Surrey, Map 8

In its final report, the Wood Commission made only one boundary change (see Surrey, Map 8), adjusting the northwest corner of Surrey-White Rock to include Crescent Beach and Crescent Heights in the same electoral district as the City of White Rock.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Wood Commission's recommendations.

2. Our analysis of the Surrey electoral districts

For our purposes, this region includes the City of Surrey and the City of White Rock. White Rock is currently included in the Surrey–White Rock electoral district. This region now has seven electoral districts. These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 19):

TABLE 19: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN SURREY

Electoral District	**1996 deviation***	**2006 deviation****
Surrey-Whalley	+0.3%	-4.2%
Surrey–Green Timbers	+5.6%	+8.4%
Surrey-Tynehead	+0.8%	+28.4%
Surrey-Newton	-8.4%	+13.1%
Surrey–Panorama Ridge	-7.5%	+24.6%
Surrey-Cloverdale	-12.6%	+20.8%
Surrey–White Rock	+4.8%	+3.9%

* based on 1996 census data, assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, assuming 79 electoral districts

As Table 19 indicates, there has been dramatic growth in three areas of the City of Surrey: in the northeast (Fleetwood), in the southwest (Panorama Ridge) and in the southeast (Cloverdale).

We approached our boundary setting exercise for this area with a goal of trying to create electoral districts that did not cross the Surrey municipal boundary, if at all possible. With a total Surrey and White Rock electoral district population of 413,985, rebalancing the population among the existing electoral districts would produce an average deviation of plus 13.6 percent based on 79 electoral districts, which we think is too high for such a growing, demographically diverse area of the province.

Adding an eighth electoral district would reduce the average deviation to plus 1.9 percent based on 81 electoral districts. In our view that is an appropriate average deviation, having regard to the expectation that Surrey's population will continue to grow significantly in the years ahead. Consequently, we are proposing that the number of electoral districts in this region be increased from seven to eight.

Adding a new electoral district in an area of significant population growth (Fleetwood) requires a reconfiguration of the existing boundaries, especially in the northern half of the municipality (see maps of proposed Surrey electoral districts. pages 207to 215). In doing so, we have done our best to respect the City of Surrey's recognized neighbourhoods and long-standing community interests.

3. Conclusion

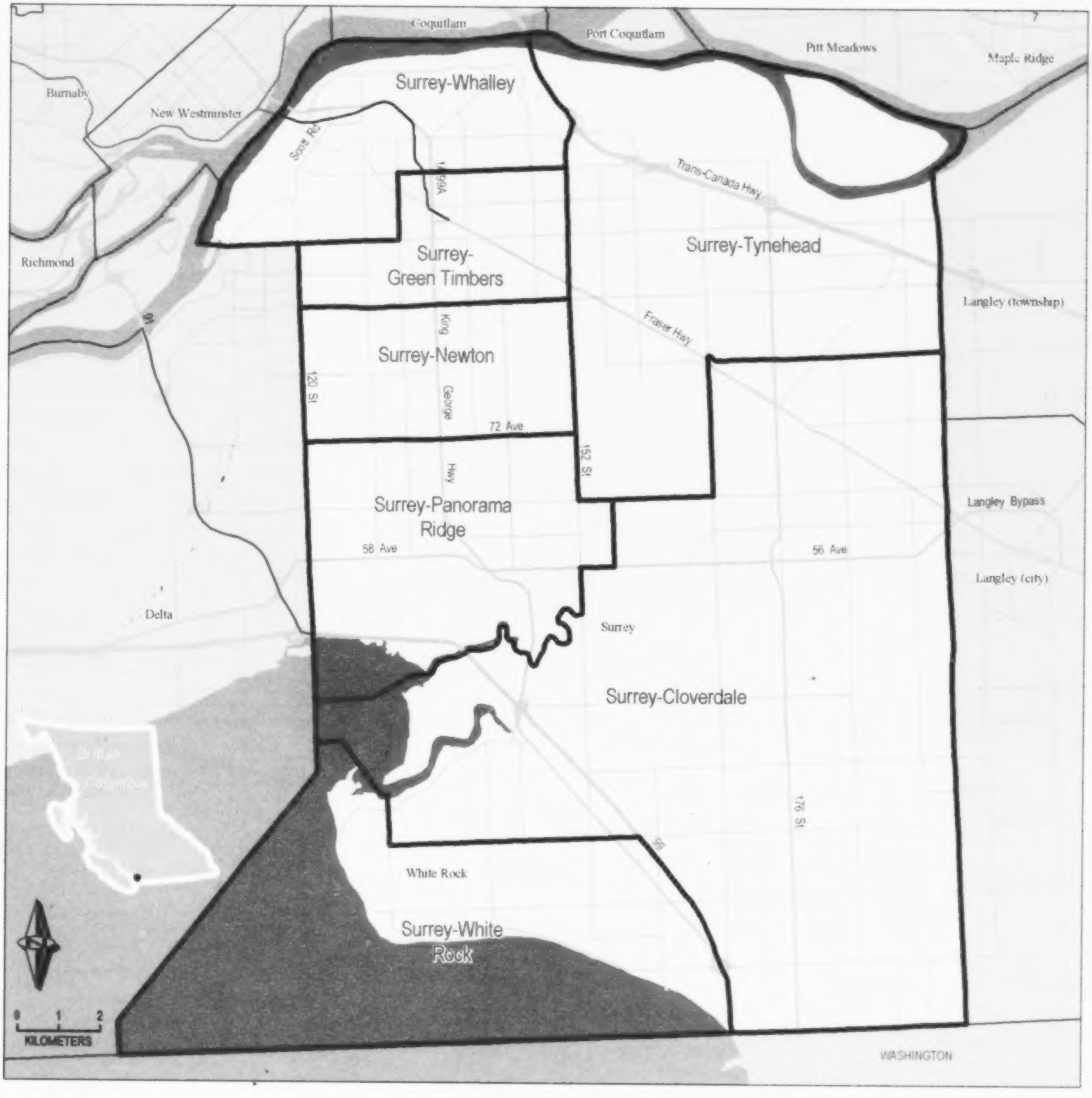
Accordingly, we propose that there be eight electoral districts in this region, as follows:

TABLE 30: PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN SURREY

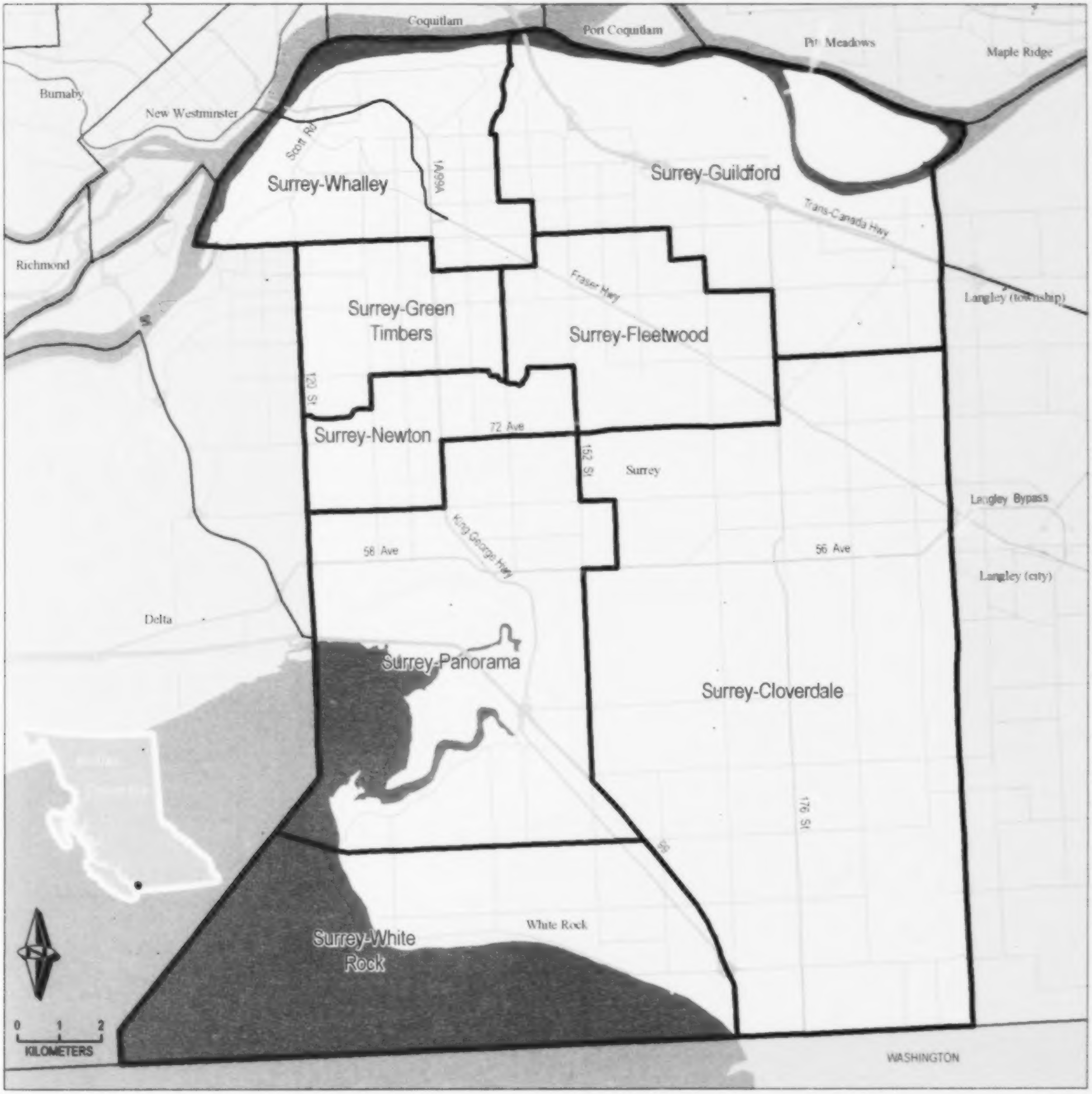
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Surrey-Whalley	31	51,283	+1%
Surrey-Guildford	57	51,801	+2%
Surrey–Green Timbers	16	51,142	+0.7%
Surrey-Fleetwood	25	51,985	+2.4%
Surrey-Newton	14	53,711	+5.8%
Surrey-Panorama	62	52,060	+2.5%
Surrey-Cloverdale	121	50,875	+0.2%
Surrey–White Rock	62	51,128	+0.7%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

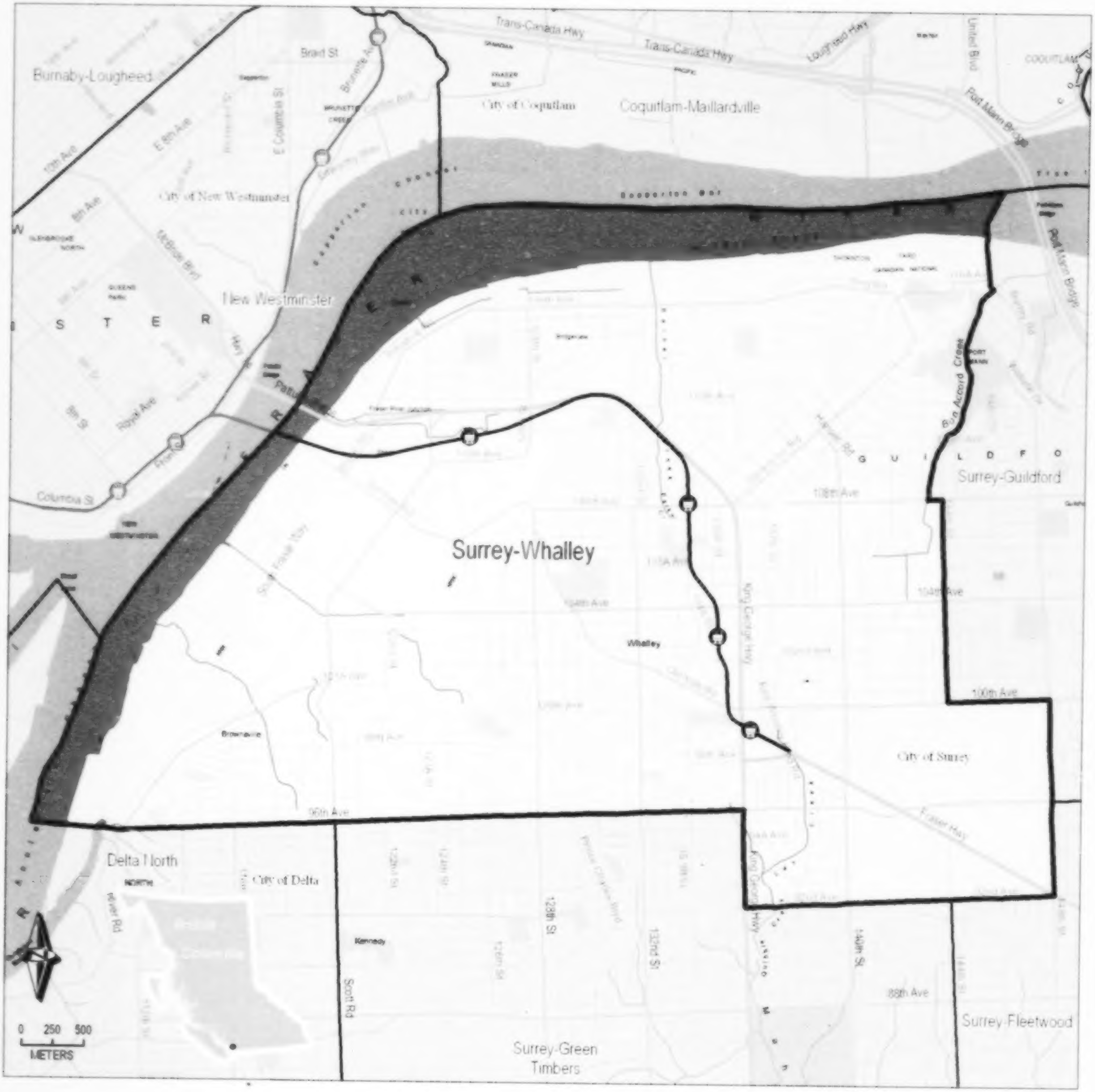
Region: Surrey – Current Electoral Districts


Coquitlam
Port Coquitlam
Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge
Burnaby
New Westminster
Richmond
Delta
Surrey-Whalley
Scott Rd
King George Hwy
Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey-Tynehead
Trans-Canada Hwy
Fraser Hwy
Langley (township)
Surrey-Newton
120 St
72 Ave
152 St
Surrey-Panorama Ridge
58 Ave
56 Ave
Langley Bypass
Langley (city)
Surrey
Surrey-Cloverdale
176 St
White Rock
Surrey-White Rock
British Columbia
KILOMETERS
0
1
2
WASHINGTON
99
7

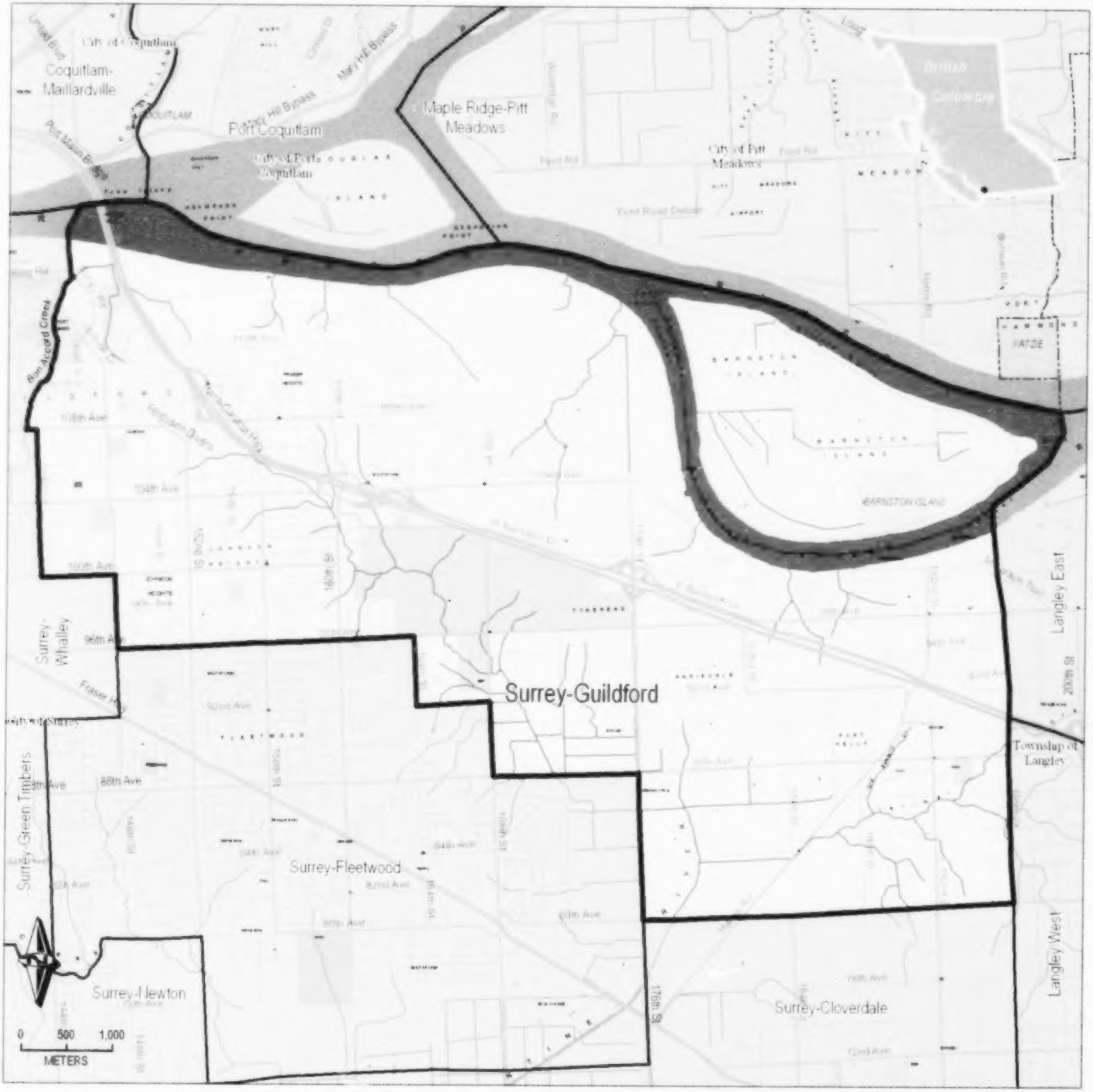
Region: Surrey – Proposed Electoral Districts


Coquitlam
Port Coquitlam
Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge
Burnaby
New Westminster
Scott Rd
1A/99A
Surrey-Whalley
Surrey-Guildford
Trans-Canada Hwy
Richmond
Fraser Hwy
Langley (township)
Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey-Fleetwood
120 St
Surrey-Newton
72 Ave
152 St
Surrey
Langley Bypass
King George Hwy
58 Ave
56 Ave
Langley (city)
Delta
Surrey-Panorama
Surrey-Cloverdale
176 St
99
White Rock
Surrey-White Rock
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
WASHINGTON

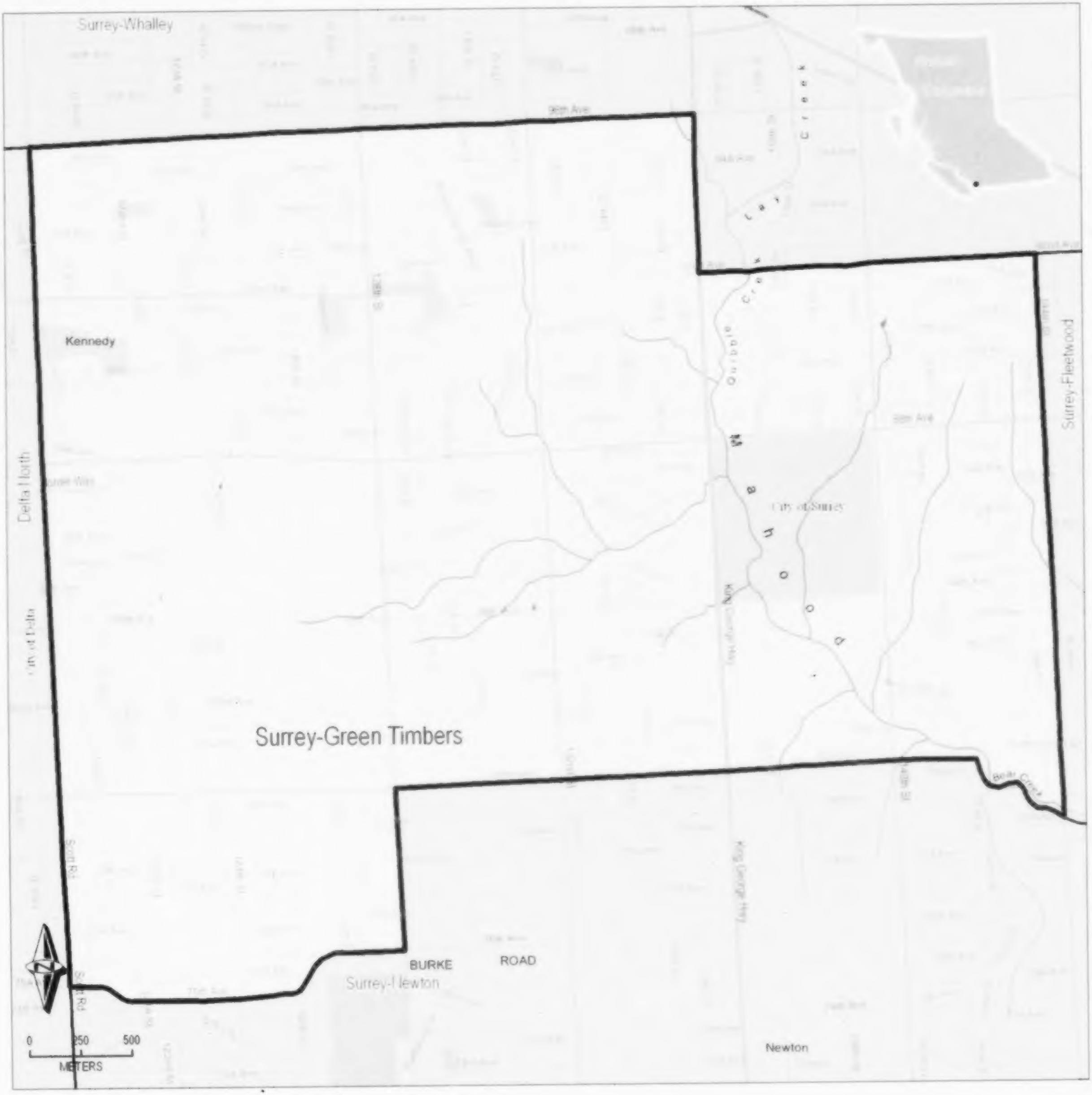
Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Whalley Electoral District


Burnaby-Lougheed
City of New Westminster
New Westminster
City of Coquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville
Trans-Canada Hwy
Lougheed Hwy
United Blvd
Port Mann Bridge
Braid St
Brunette Ave
E Columbia St
E 8th Ave
10th Ave
8th Ave
McBride Blvd
Royal Ave
Columbia St
Pattullo Bridge
Surrey-Whalley
Whalley
Brownsville
96th Ave
104th Ave
108th Ave
100th Ave
King George Hwy
Fraser Hwy
Bon Accord Creek
Surrey-Guildford
City of Surrey
Delta North
City of Delta
River Rd
Scott Rd
128th St
132nd St
140th St
88th Ave
Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey-Fleetwood
0 250 500
METERS

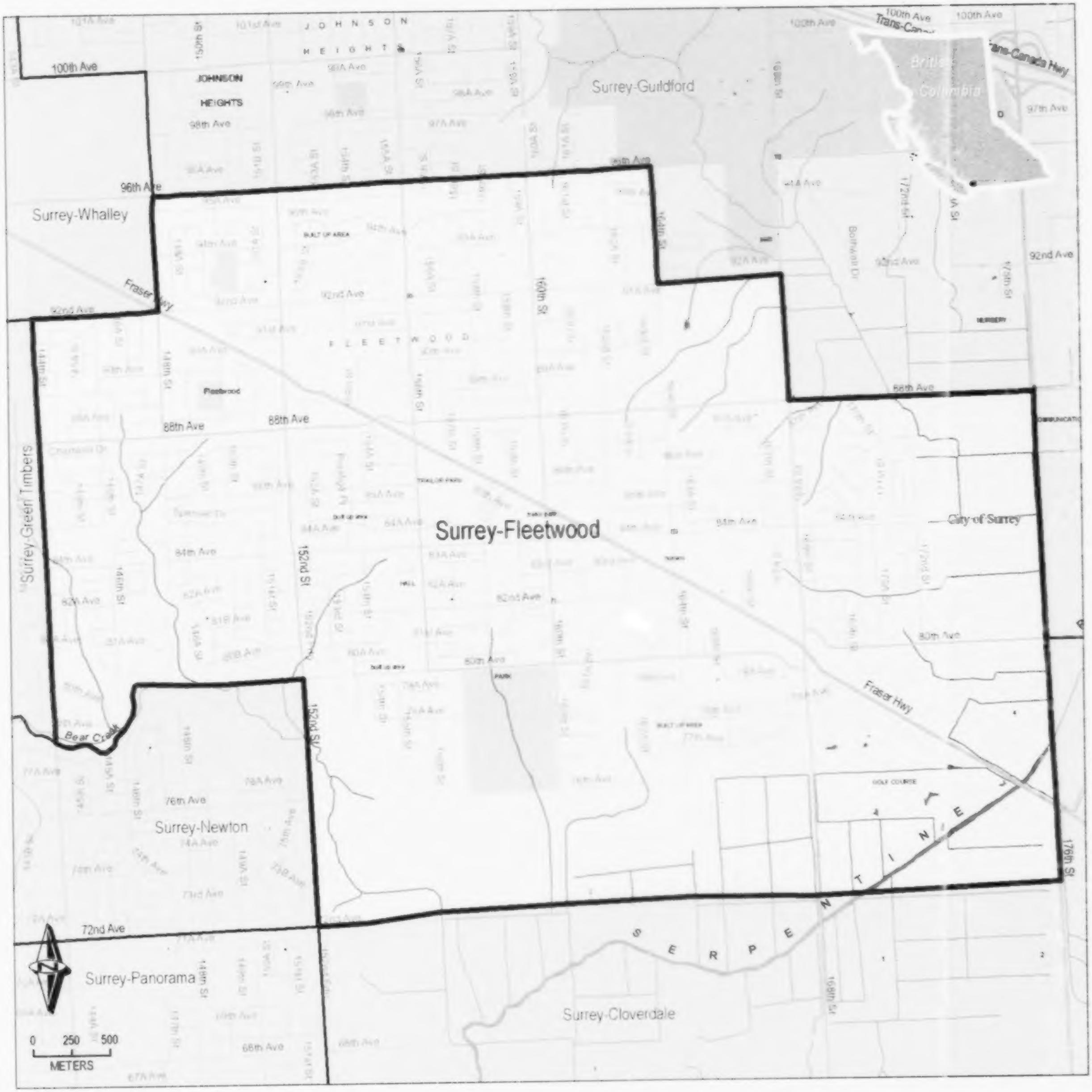
Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Guildford Electoral District


City of Coquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville
United Blvd
Port Mann Bridge
Mary Hill Bypass
Port Coquitlam
City of Port Coquitlam
Douglas Island
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
City of Pitt Meadows
Pitt Meadows
Lougheed
British Columbia
Hatzic
Barnston Island
Bon Accord Creek
108th Ave
104th Ave
100th Ave
96th Ave
Fraser Hwy
City of Surrey
Surrey-Whalley
Surrey-Guildford
Surrey-Green Timbers
88th Ave
84th Ave
82nd Ave
80th Ave
160th St
176th St
200th St
Surrey-Fleetwood
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-Cloverdale
Langley East
Township of Langley
Langley West
0
500
1,000
METERS

Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey–Green Timbers Electoral District

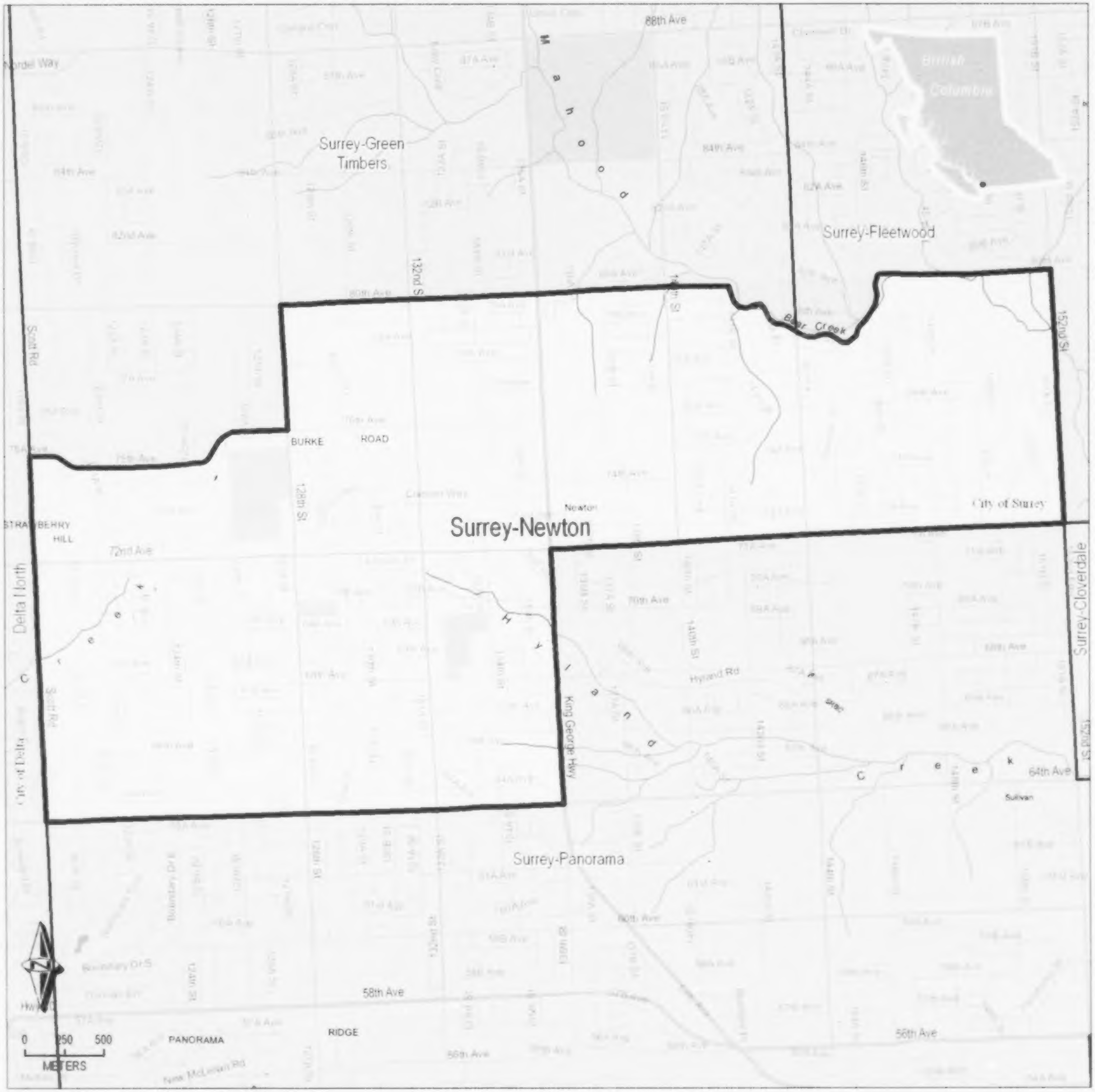

Surrey-Whalley
96th Ave
Kennedy
Delta North
City of Delta
128th St
Quibble Creek
Mahood Creek
City of Surrey
King George Hwy
Surrey-Fleetwood
Surrey-Green Timbers
140th St
Bear Creek
Scott Rd
BURKE ROAD
Surrey-Newton
Newton
0
250
500
METERS

Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Fleetwood Electoral District

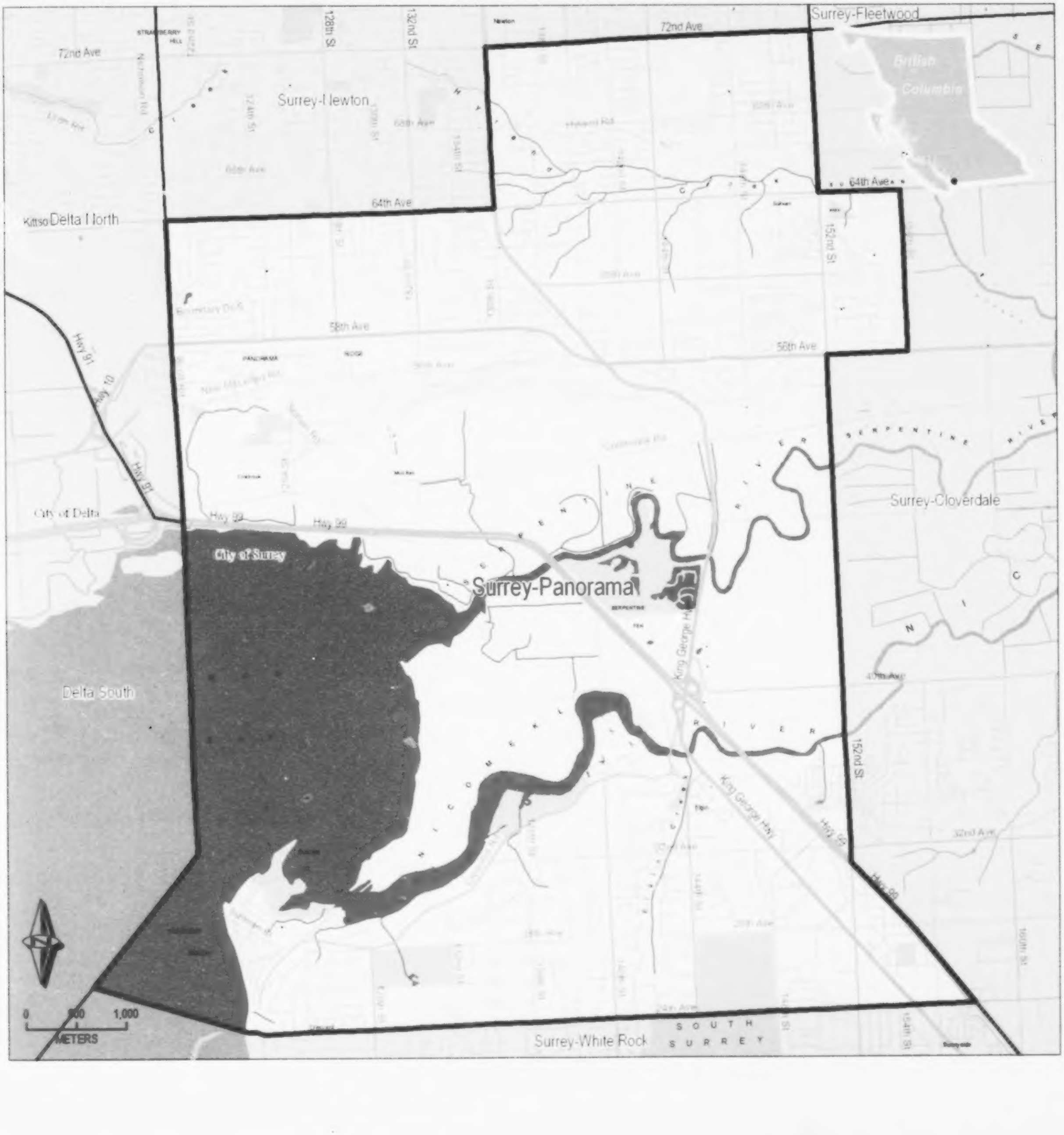


Surrey-Fleetwood
Surrey-Guildford
Surrey-Whalley
Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-Panorama
Surrey-Cloverdale
City of Surrey
JOHNSON HEIGHTS
FLEETWOOD
SERPENTINE
British Columbia
Fraser Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
Bear Creek
100th Ave
96th Ave
92nd Ave
88th Ave
84th Ave
80th Ave
76th Ave
72nd Ave
68th Ave
152nd St
160th St
164th St
168th St
176th St
0 250 500
METERS

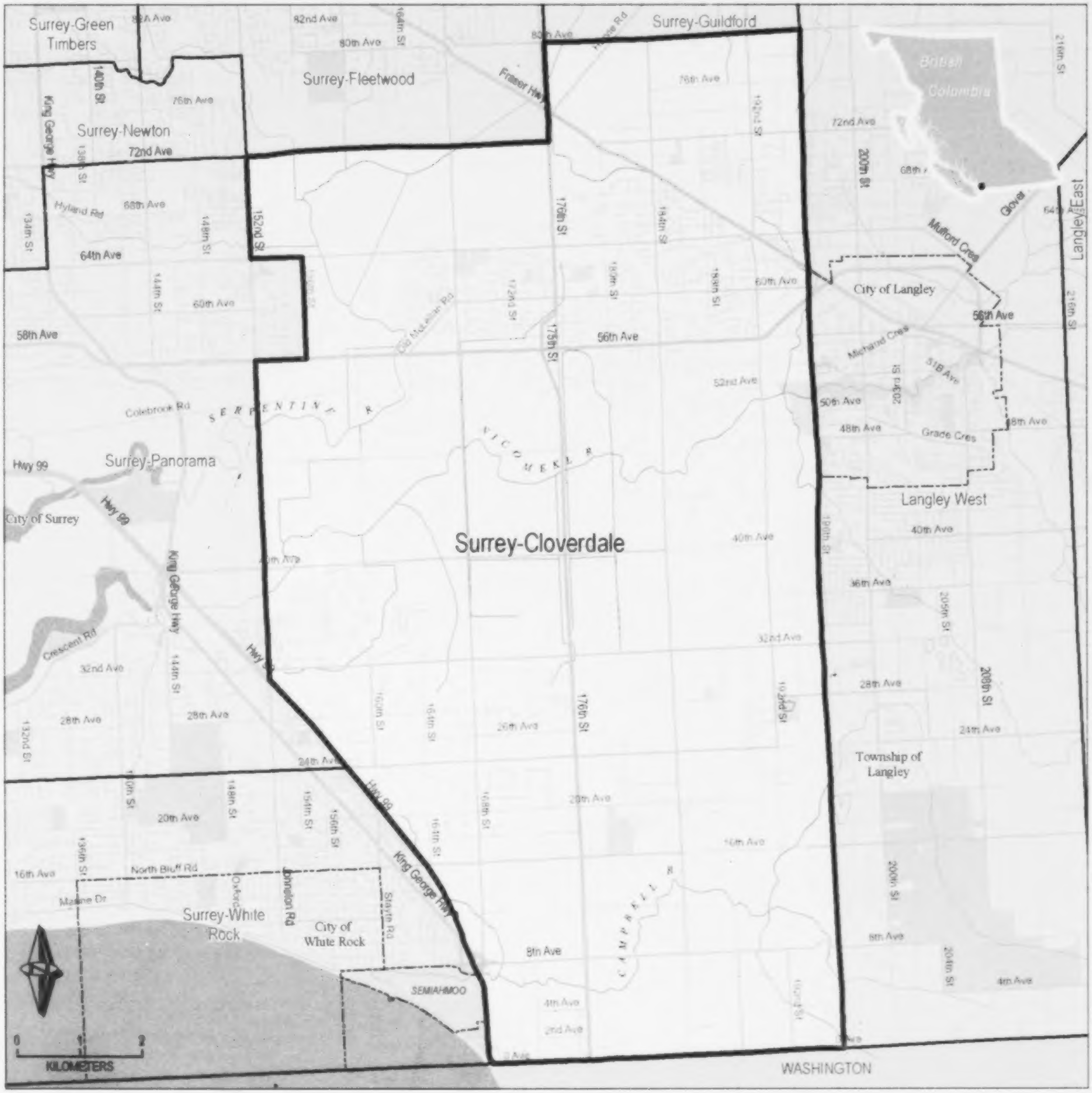
Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Newton Electoral District


88th Ave
Nordel Way
British Columbia
Surrey-Green Timbers
M a h o o d
Surrey-Fleetwood
80th Ave
132nd St
Bear Creek
152nd St
Scott Rd
BURKE
ROAD
75A Ave
128th St
Newton
Surrey-Newton
City of Surrey
STRAWBERRY HILL
72nd Ave
Delta North
Surrey-Cloverdale
C r e e k
H y l a n d
140th St
Hyland Rd
King George Hwy
142nd St
64th Ave
Sullivan
City of Delta
Surrey-Panorama
58th Ave
56th Ave
Boundary Dr S
PANORAMA
RIDGE
New McLellan Rd
0 250 500
METERS

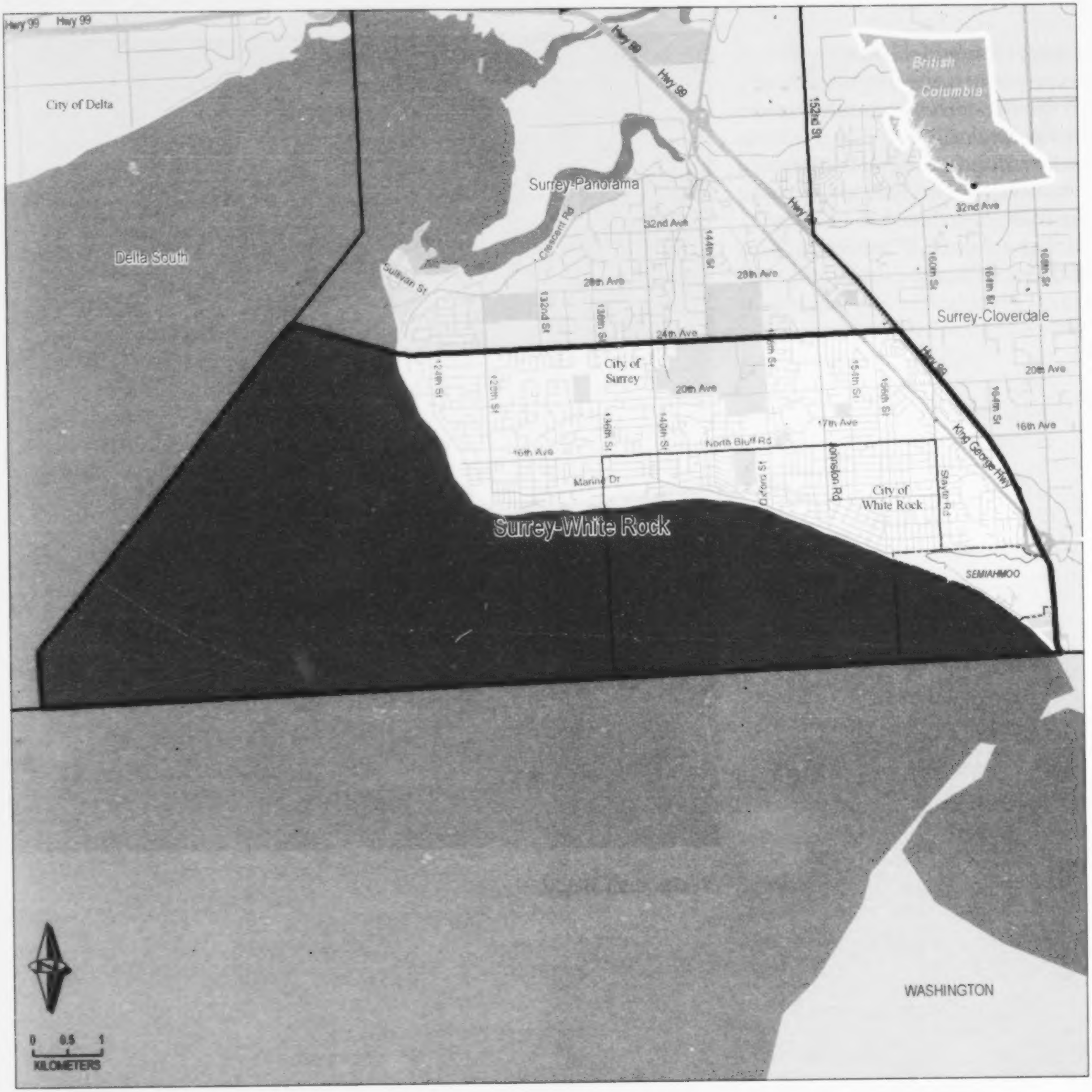
Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Panorama Electoral District


Surrey-Fleetwood
72nd Ave
128th St
132nd St
Surrey-Newton
64th Ave
Kittso Delta North
British Columbia
152nd St
58th Ave
56th Ave
Hwy 91
Hwy 10
Hwy 99
City of Delta
City of Surrey
Surrey-Panorama
Surrey-Cloverdale
SERPENTINE RIVER
NICOMEKL RIVER
King George Hwy
Delta South
32nd Ave
24th Ave
SOUTH SURREY
Surrey-White Rock
0
500
1,000
METERS

Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Cloverdale Electoral District


Surrey-Green Timbers
Surrey-Guildford
Surrey-Fleetwood
Surrey-Newton
Surrey-Panorama
Surrey-Cloverdale
Surrey-White Rock
City of Surrey
City of White Rock
City of Langley
Langley West
Langley East
Township of Langley
British Columbia
SEMIAHMOO
WASHINGTON
SERPENTINE R
NICOMEKL R
CAMPBELL R
Fraser Hwy
King George Hwy
Hwy 99
Colebrook Rd
Crescent Rd
Hyland Rd
Old McLellan Rd
North Bluff Rd
Marine Dr
Johnston Rd
Stayte Rd
Oxford
Michaud Cres
Mufford Cres
Glover
Grade Cres
56th Ave
72nd Ave
64th Ave
58th Ave
24th Ave
8th Ave
152nd St
176th St
200th St
216th St
KILOMETERS
0
1
2

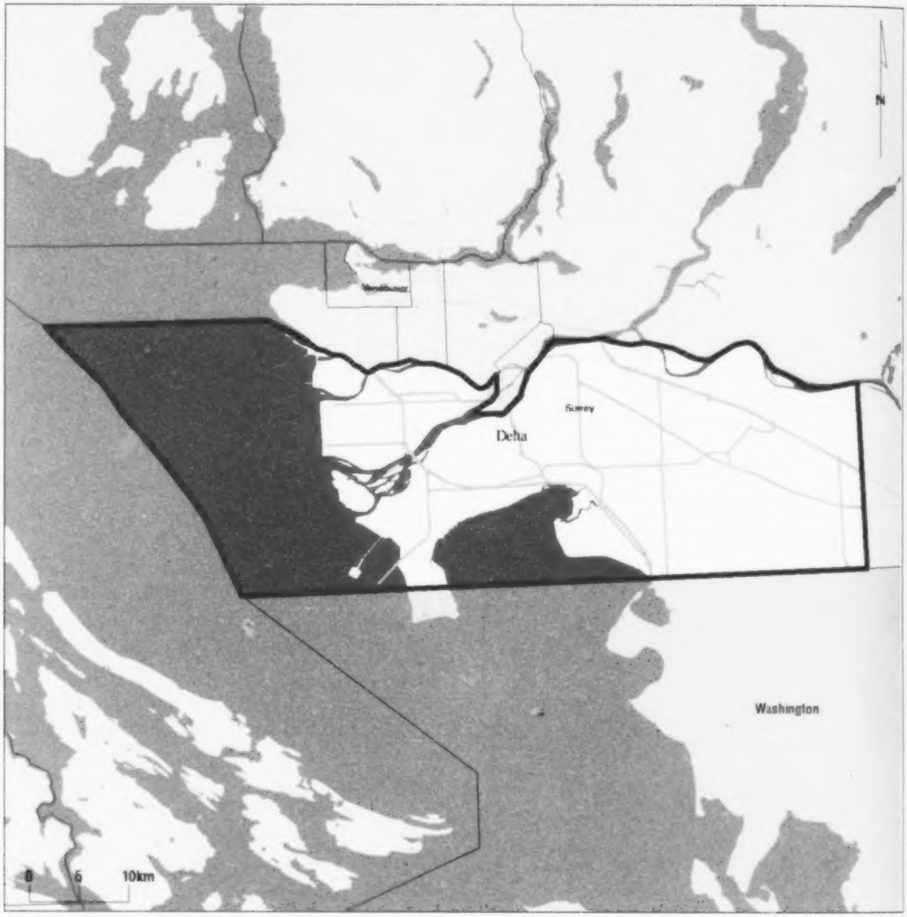
Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey–White Rock Electoral District


Hwy 99
Hwy 99
City of Delta
Delta South
Surrey-Panorama
British Columbia
152nd St
32nd Ave
Crescent Rd
32nd Ave
144th St
28th Ave
28th Ave
Sullivan St
132nd St
136th St
24th Ave
160th St
164th St
168th St
Surrey-Cloverdale
City of Surrey
124th St
128th St
20th Ave
154th St
156th St
20th Ave
17th Ave
164th St
16th Ave
136th St
140th St
North Bluff Rd
16th Ave
King George Hwy
Marine Dr
Oxford St
Johnston Rd
City of White Rock
Stayte Rd
Surrey-White Rock
SEMIAHMOO
WASHINGTON
0
0.5
1
KILOMETERS

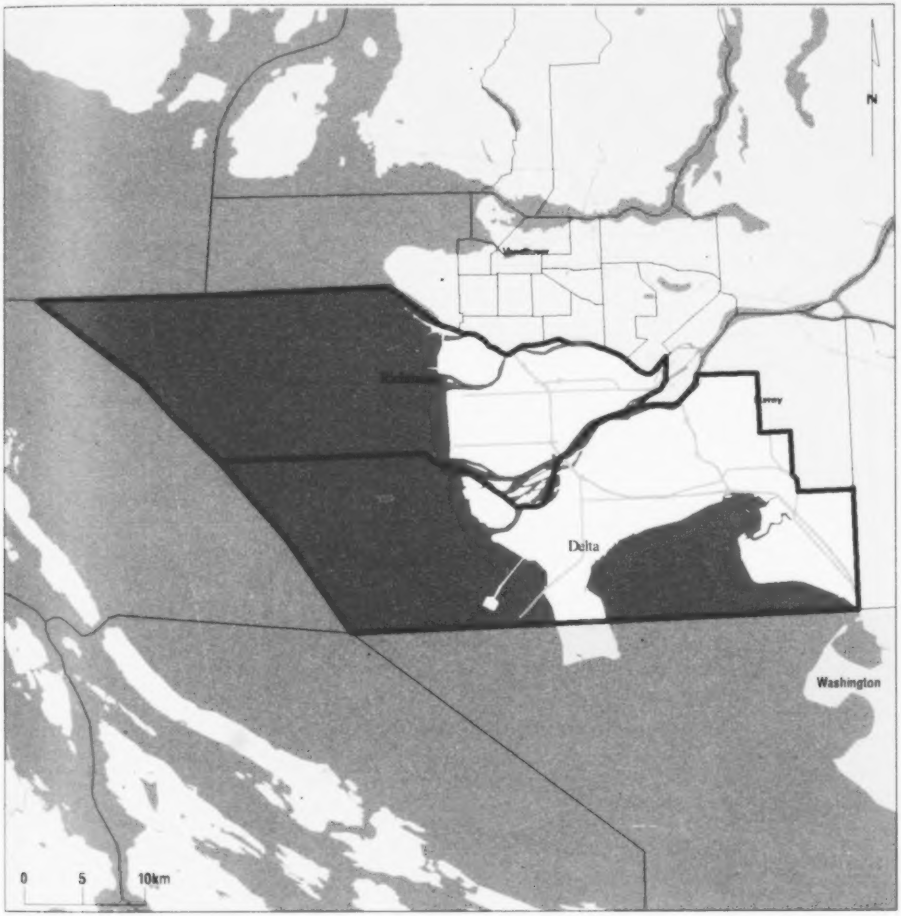
J. Richmond and Delta

1. Evolution of the Richmond and Delta electoral districts

Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission, the two-member electoral district of Delta included all of Richmond, Delta, Surrey, White Rock and Langley (see Richmond, Map 1).


N
Vancouver
Surrey
Delta
Washington
0
5
10km

Richmond, Map 1

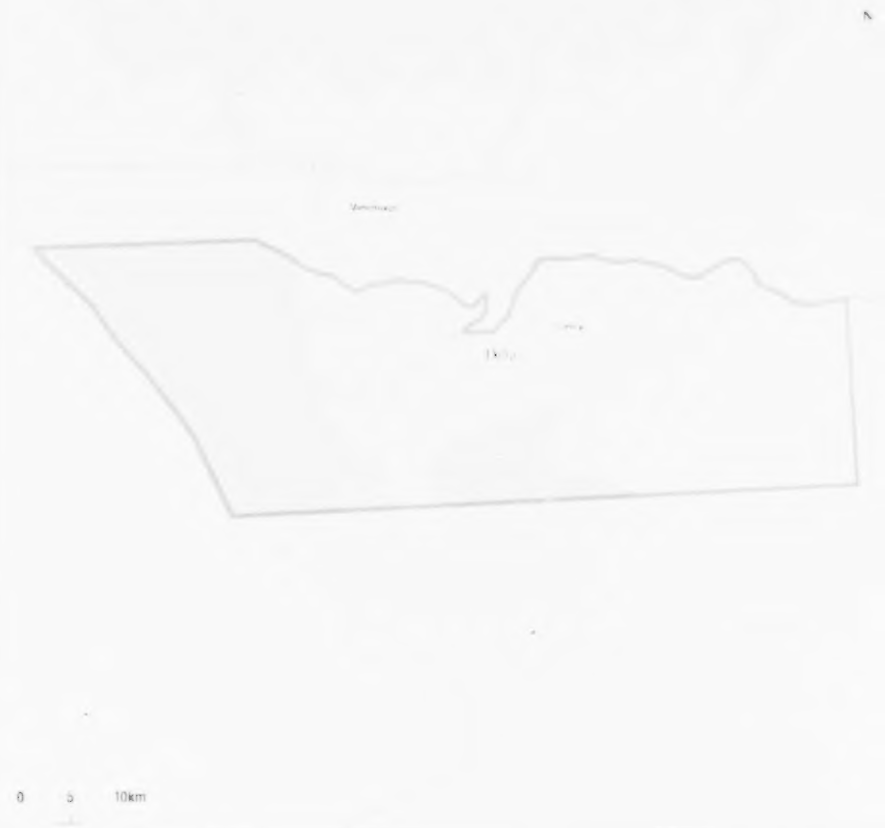


Richmond, Map 2

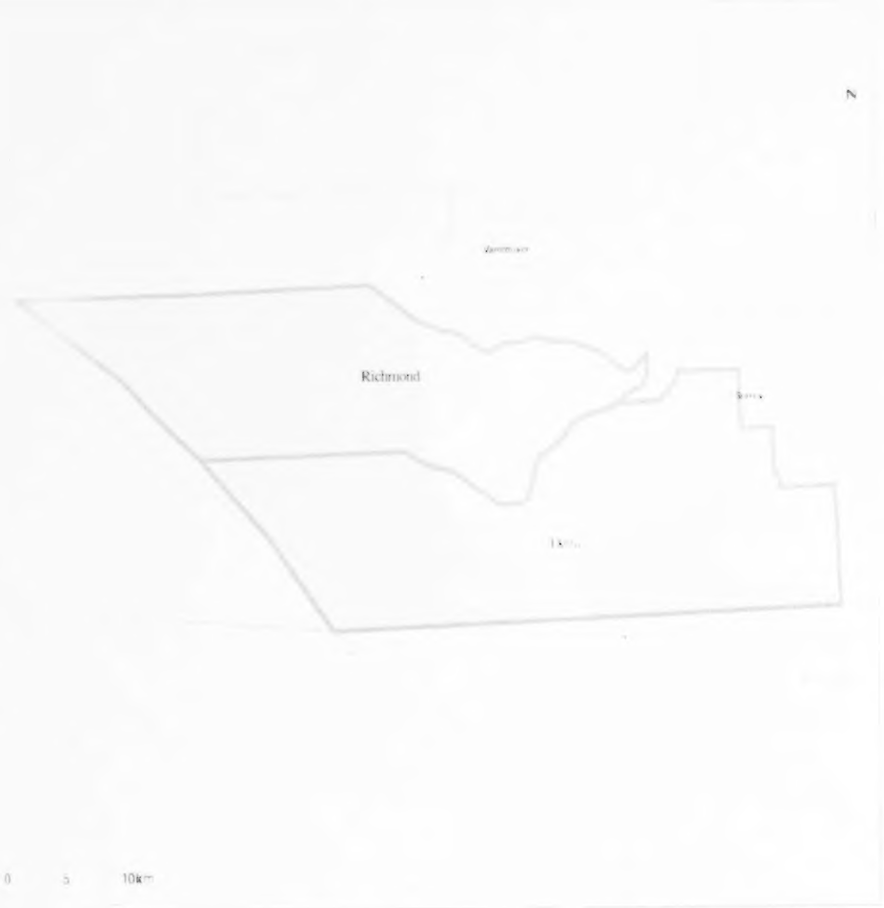
a. The Angus Commission (1966)
The Angus Commission recommended that the electoral district of Delta be divided into four: Richmond, Delta, Surrey and Langley (see Richmond, Map 2). The Richmond district would correspond exactly with the boundaries of the City of Richmond, while the Delta district would include all of the municipality of Delta, the southwestern portion of Surrey (Crescent Beach) and White Rock.

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations.

Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission, the two member electoral district of Delta included all of Richmond, Delta, Surrey, White Rock and Langley (see Richmond, Map 1).



Richmond, Map 1



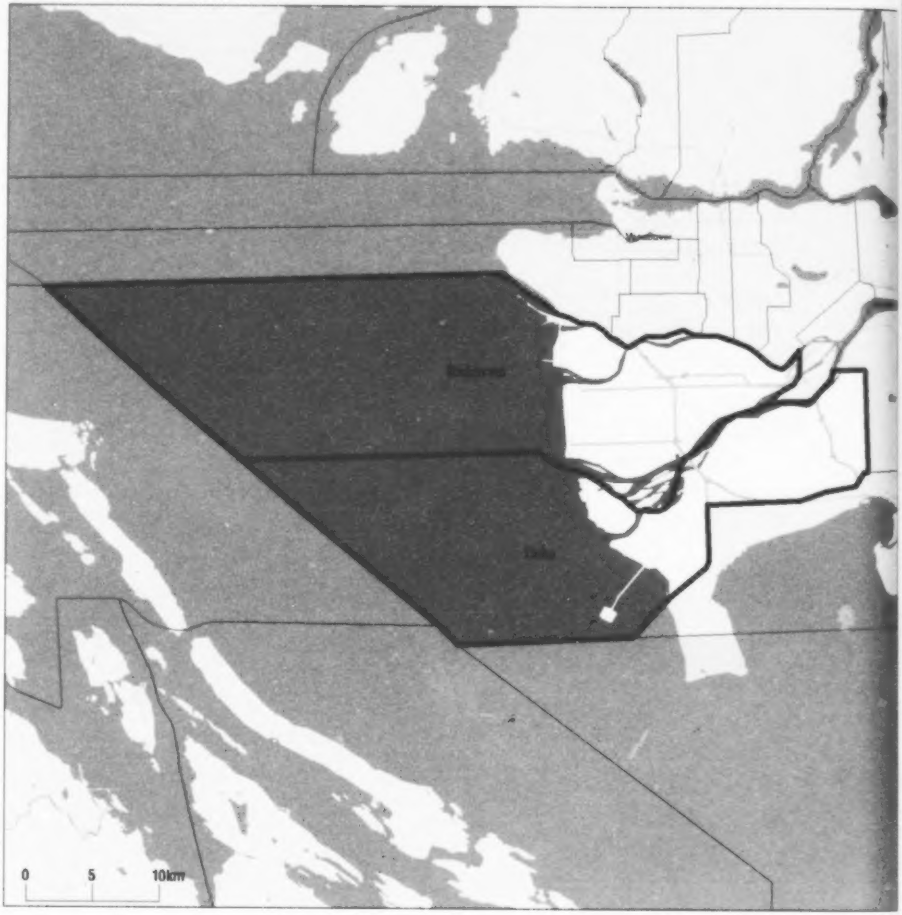
Richmond, Map 2

The Angus Commission recommended that the electoral district of Delta be divided into four: Richmond, Delta, Surrey and Langley (see Richmond, Map 2). The Richmond district would correspond exactly with the boundaries of the City of Richmond, while the Delta district would include all of the municipality of Delta, the southwestern portion of Surrey (Crescent Beach) and White Rock.

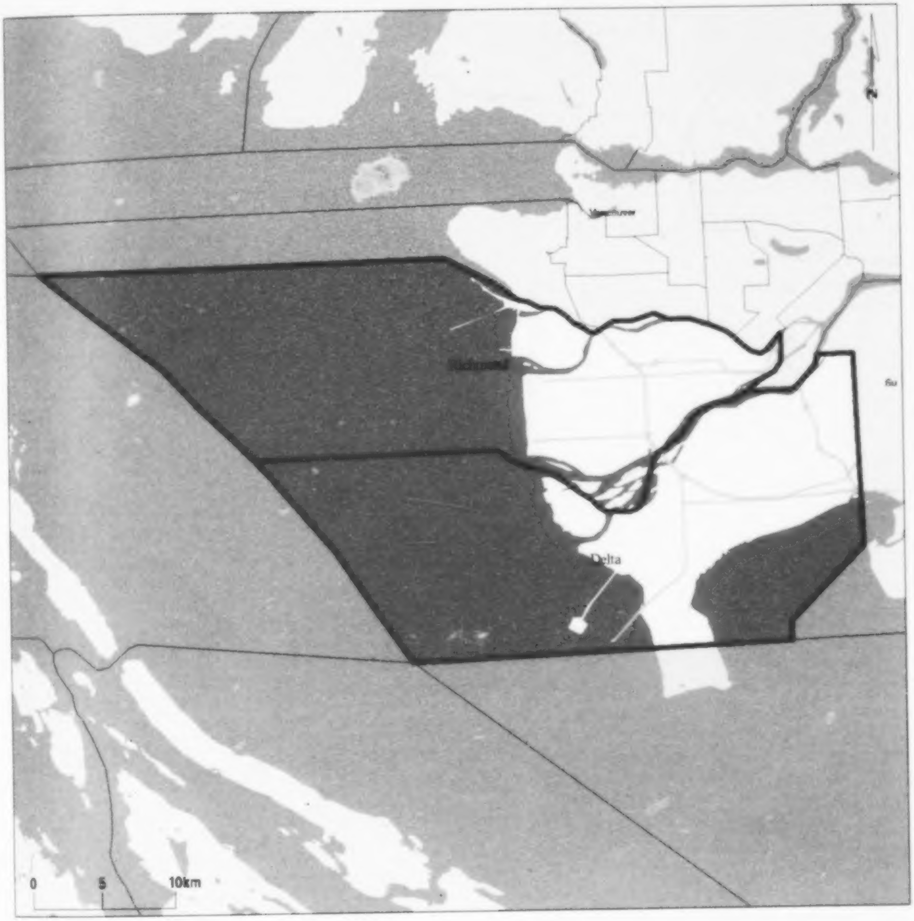
The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations.

b. The Norris Commission (1975)
The Norris Commission recommended (see Richmond, Map 3) that the boundaries of the Richmond district remain unchanged, but that it become a two-member electoral district. It also recommended that the southern areas of the Delta district (Tsawwassen, Crescent Beach and White Rock) be transferred into a new district, to be called Peace Arch.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.



Richmond, Map 3



Richmond, Map 4

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt recommended (see Richmond, Map 4) that the Richmond and Delta electoral districts continue to elect one MLA each. Richmond should retain its existing boundaries, while the Delta district's boundaries should be altered to follow the municipal boundaries, with the exception of Annacis Island, which should remain part of the existing New Westminster electoral district.

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

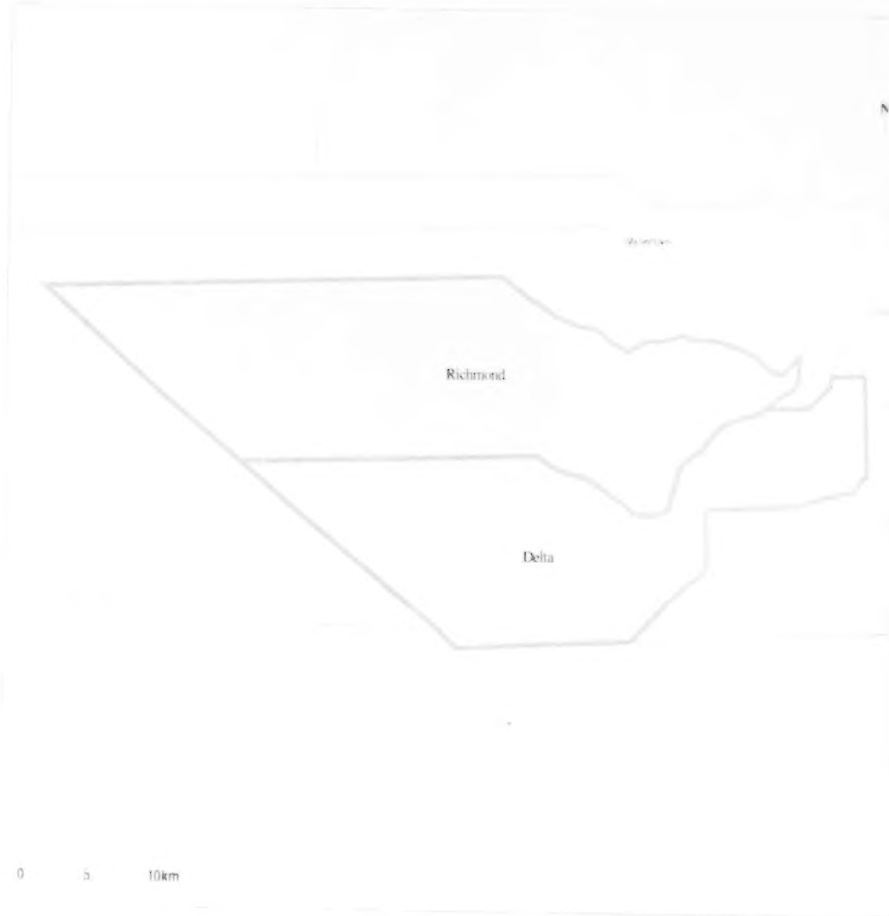
d. The Warren Commission (1982)
Mr. Warren recommended that a second MLA be added to seven electoral districts, including Richmond and Delta. The Legislative Assembly did not adopt Mr. Warren's recommendation.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
The McAdam Commission recommended that a second MLA be added to 11 electoral districts, including Richmond and Delta. The Legislative Assembly adopted the McAdam Commission's recommendation, giving the region four MLAs.

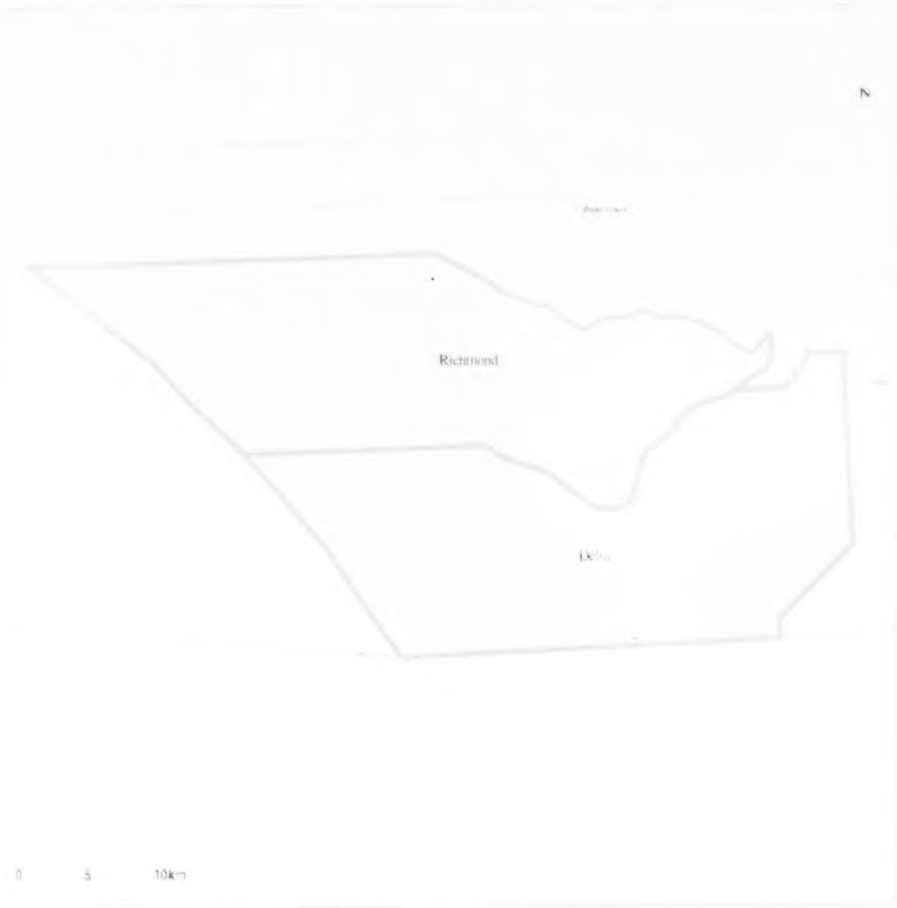
3. *The Norris Commission (1978)*

The Norris Commission recommended (see Richmond, Map 3) that the boundaries of the Richmond district remain unchanged, but that it become a two-member electoral district. It also recommended that the southern areas of the Delta district (Tsawwassen, Crescent Beach and White Rock) be transferred into a new district, to be called Peace Arch.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.



Richmond, Map 3



Richmond, Map 4

[illegible] Commission (1978)

Judge Eckardt recommended (see Richmond, Map 4) that the Richmond and Delta electoral districts continue to elect one MLA each. Richmond should retain its existing boundaries, while the Delta district's boundaries should be altered to follow the municipal boundaries, with the exception of Annacis Island, which should remain part of the existing New Westminster electoral district.

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

[illegible] Commission [illegible]

Mr. Warren recommended that a second MLA be added to seven electoral districts, including Richmond and Delta. The Legislative Assembly did not adopt Mr. Warren's recommendation.

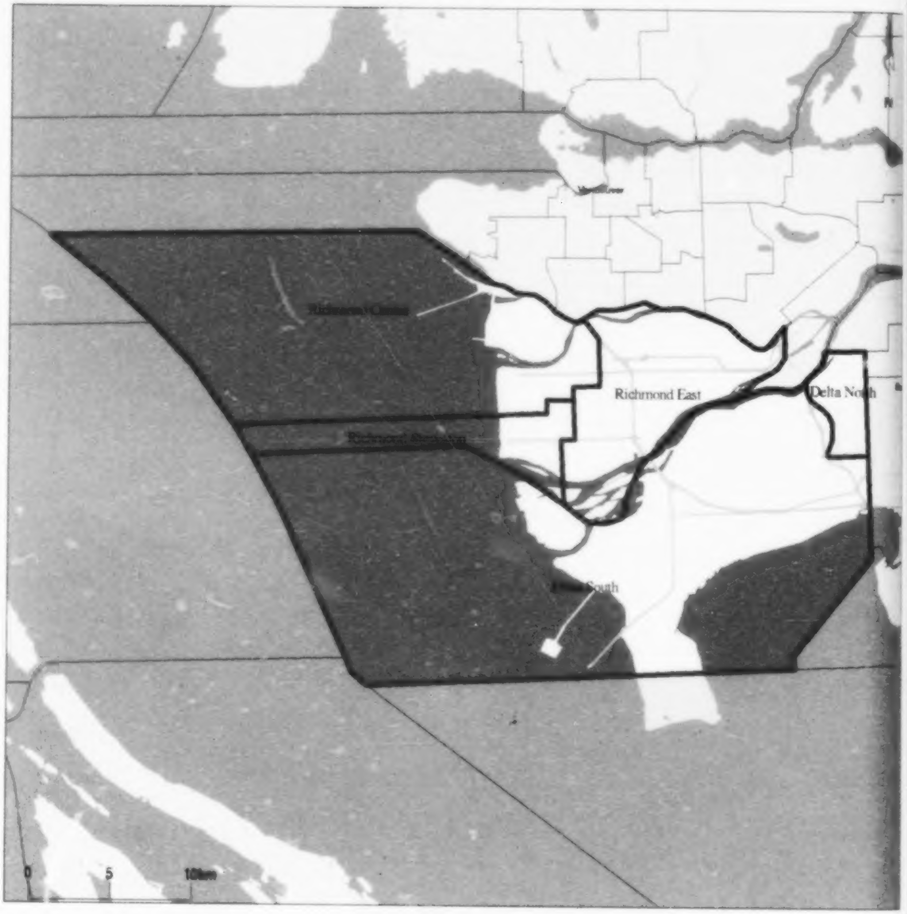
[illegible] McAdam Commission [illegible]

The McAdam Commission recommended that a second MLA be added to 11 electoral districts, including Richmond and Delta. The Legislative Assembly adopted the McAdam Commission's recommendation, giving the region four MLAs.

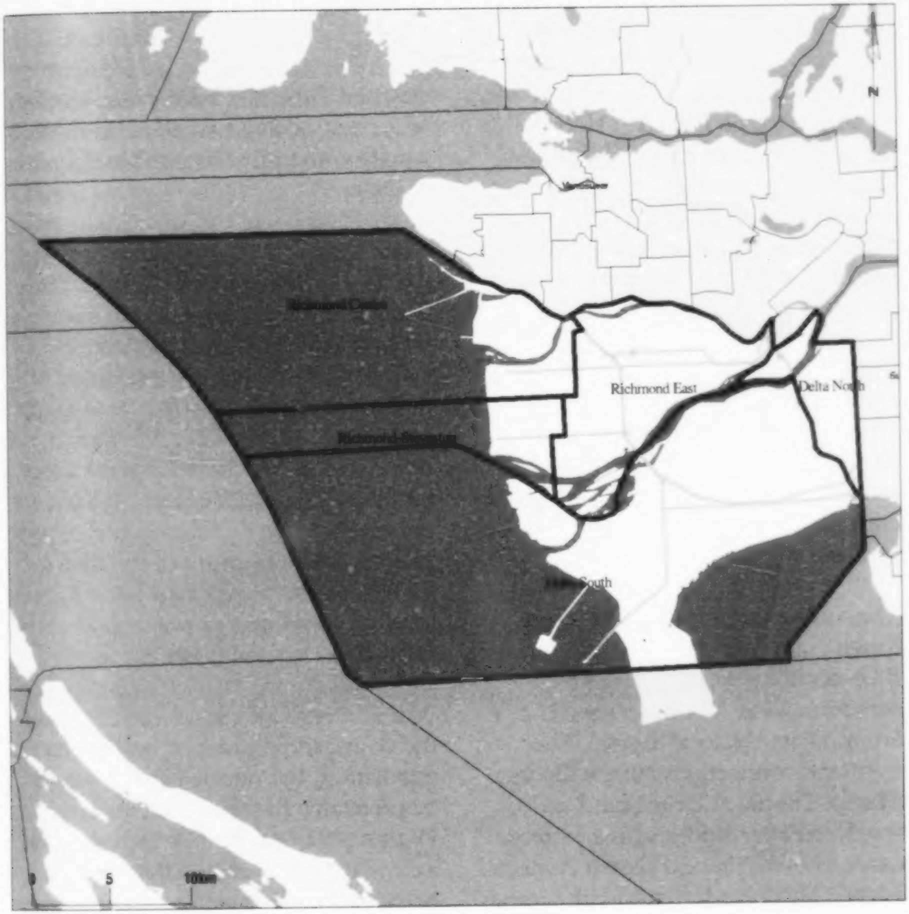
f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
In order to eliminate dual-member electoral districts, Judge Fisher divided the electoral district of Delta into North Delta (in the northeast quadrant of the municipality of Delta) and Ladner-Tsawwassen. In the case of Richmond, the elimination of the dual-member riding would have created two electoral districts, but Judge Fisher added a third, because of the area's growing population. He proposed names of Richmond East, Richmond North and Richmond South.

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Fisher's recommendations for five electoral districts, but changed the names to Delta North, Delta South, Richmond East, Richmond Centre, and Richmond-Steveston (see Richmond, Map 5).

g. The Wood Commission (1999)
The commission noted wide population disparities among the three Richmond electoral districts. For example, Richmond East (which had been identified by the municipality as the likely site of high growth in the future) had a deviation of plus 17.3 percent, while



Richmond, Map 5



Richmond, Map 6

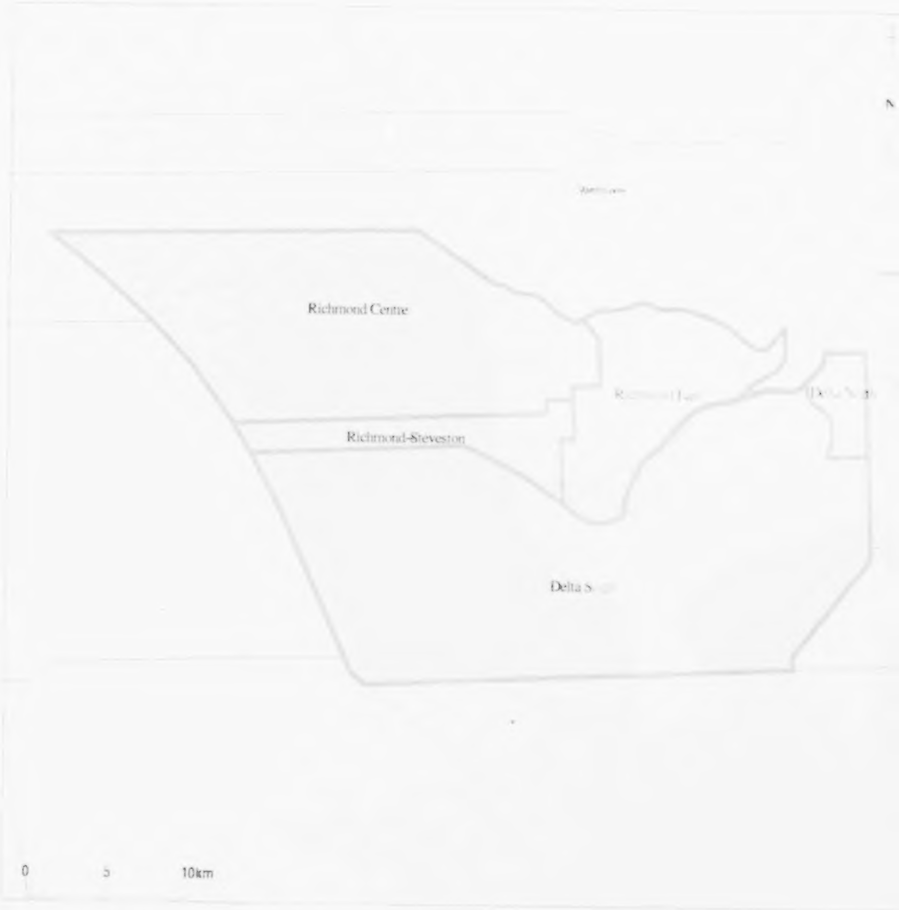
Richmond-Steveston had a deviation of minus 10 percent. The commission recommended that the boundary between Richmond Centre and Richmond-Steveston be moved farther north, so that it ran east along Blundell Road to Garden City Road, and from there north on Garden City Road (instead of No. 4 Road) to Sea Island Way (see Richmond, Map 6). This left Richmond Centre with a modest negative deviation, "leaving room for the population growth predicted by the City."

The boundaries of the two Delta districts also required some adjustment. The northeast boundary of Delta South was proposed to follow Highway 91 from the south arm of the Fraser River to the Delta-Surrey municipal boundary, rather than the Burlington Northern Railway right of way, which would also restore residents living south of 64th Avenue to Delta North. In addition, Annacis Island was proposed to be included in Delta North, as it is part of the municipality of Delta.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

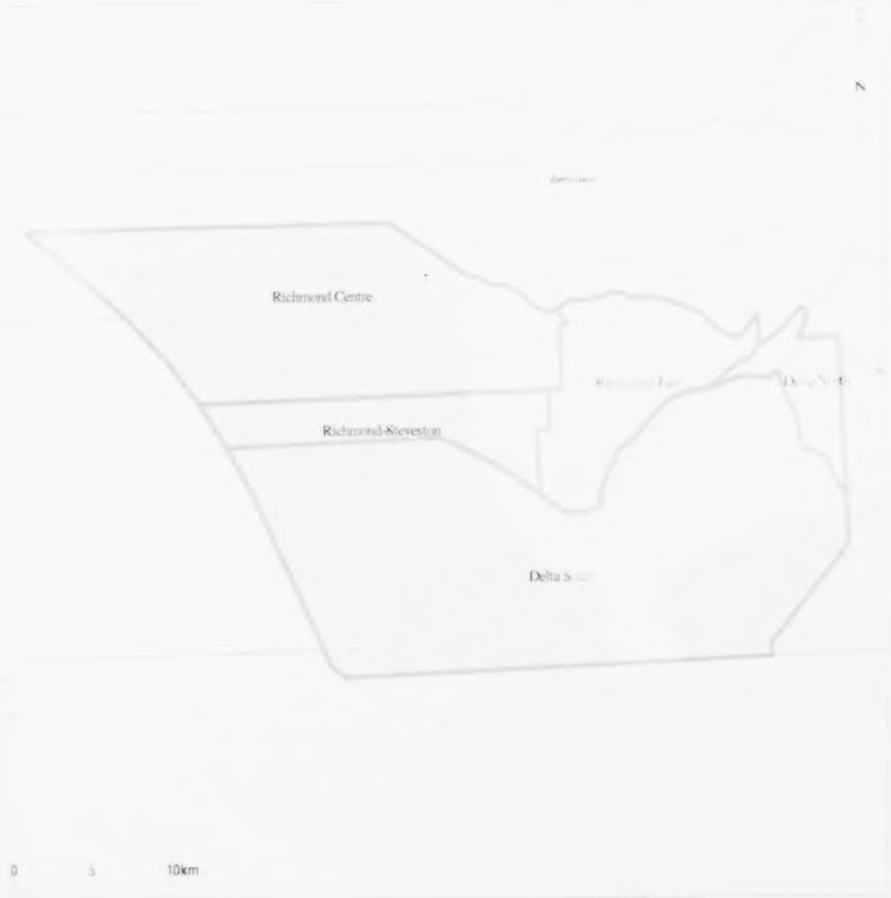
In order to eliminate dual-member electoral districts, Judge Fisher divided the electoral district of Delta into North Delta (in the northeast quadrant of the municipality of Delta) and Ladner-Tsawwassen. In the case of Richmond, the elimination of the dual-member riding would have created two electoral districts, but Judge Fisher added a third, because of the area's growing population. He proposed names of Richmond East, Richmond North and Richmond South.

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Fisher's recommendations for five electoral districts, but changed the names to Delta North, Delta South, Richmond East, Richmond Centre, and Richmond-Steveston (see Richmond, Map 5).



Richmond, Map 5

The commission noted wide population disparities among the three Richmond electoral districts. For example, Richmond East (which had been identified by the municipality as the likely site of high growth in the future) had a deviation of plus 17.3 percent, while



Richmond, Map 6

Richmond-Steveston had a deviation of minus 10 percent. The commission recommended that the boundary between Richmond Centre and Richmond-Steveston be moved further north, so that it ran east along Blundell Road to Garden City Road, and from there north on Garden City Road (instead of No. 4 Road) to Sea Island Way (see Richmond, Map 6). This left Richmond Centre with a modest negative deviation, "leaving room for the population growth predicted by the City."

The boundaries of the two Delta districts also required some adjustment. The northeast boundary of Delta South was proposed to follow Highway 91 from the south arm of the Fraser River to the Delta-Surrey municipal boundary, rather than the Burlington Northern Railway right of way, which would also restore residents living south of 64th Avenue to Delta North. In addition, Annacis Island was proposed to be included in Delta North, as it is part of the municipality of Delta.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

2. Our analysis of the Richmond and Delta electoral districts

Our Richmond and Delta region includes the City of Richmond and the Corporation of Delta. This region now has five electoral districts (see map on page 224.) These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 21):

TABLE 21: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN RICHMOND AND DELTA

Electoral District	1996 deviation*	2006 deviation**
Richmond Centre	-1.8%	+13.6%
Richmond-Steveston	+8.3%	+6.2%
Richmond East	+9.3%	+15.2%
Delta South	-5.2%	-12.1%
Delta North	+8.7%	-0.8%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

As with Surrey, we approached our boundary setting exercise for this area with a preference to create electoral districts that did not cross municipal boundaries, if possible. Based on population considerations alone, Richmond (pop. 174,461) has too many residents for three electoral districts, but not enough for four. Redistributing Richmond's population among its three existing electoral districts results in an average deviation of plus 11.7 percent (based on 79 electoral districts). On the other hand Delta, with 97,402 residents, would have two electoral districts with an average deviation of minus 6.5 percent, based on 79 districts. This includes the Corporation of Delta (pop. 96,723) and First Nations reserves (pop. 679) situated within the Delta South electoral districts.

Should we retain three Richmond districts and two Delta districts, out of respect for their municipal boundaries, or should we include some of Richmond's population in Delta in order to equalize the population among all five electoral districts?

The south arm of the Fraser River forms a clear demarcation between the Richmond East and Richmond-Steveston electoral districts and the South Delta electoral district. The only land connections are the George Massey Tunnel at Deas Island and the Alex Fraser Bridge at the extreme east end of Richmond East at Annacis Island. There are few apparent community interests across this stretch of the Fraser River.

On balance, we are satisfied that the municipal boundaries reflect community interests that should take priority over population parity in this instance, and that we should retain three electoral districts wholly within the City of Richmond and two electoral districts wholly within the District Municipality of Delta.

Based on BC Stats' population projections to 2013 (Appendix O) and other information we have received, we are proposing several boundary adjustments within this region (see maps of three proposed Richmond electoral districts pages 226 to 228). We have not balanced the population exactly among the three proposed Richmond electoral districts because population projections indicate the population of the Richmond Centre electoral district will grow more rapidly than the population of the other two electoral districts.

Within Delta, we considered changing the boundary in order to balance the population, but decided that it would be preferable to retain the current Highway 91 boundary, which serves as a clear and easily identifiable division between North Delta's residential communities to the east and South Delta's agricultural and industrial lands to the west. We believe this to be another case where these community interests should take precedence over strict population parity (see maps of two proposed Delta electoral districts pages 229-230).

3. Conclusion

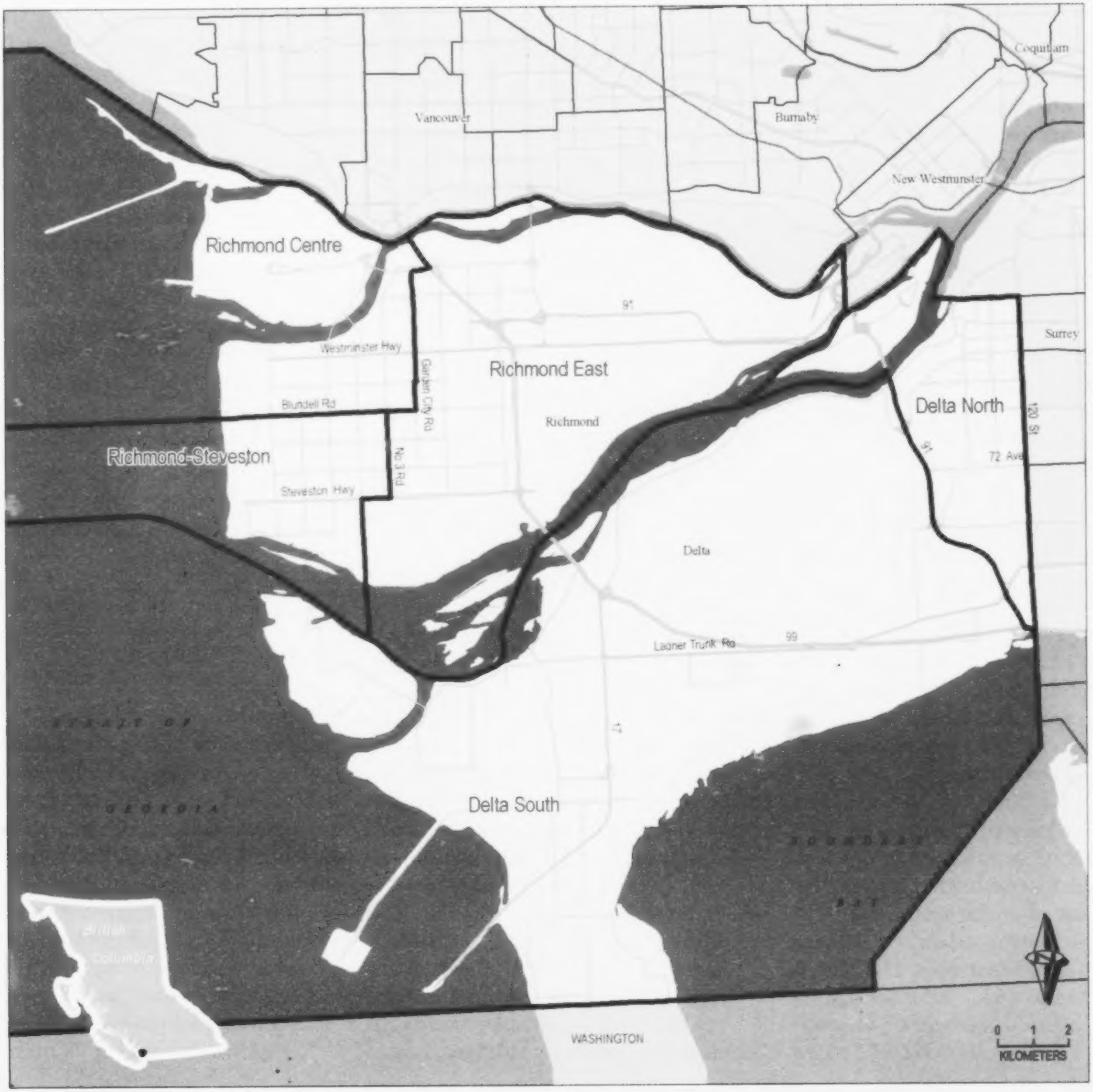
Accordingly, we propose that there be three electoral districts in the City of Richmond and two electoral districts in the District Municipality of Delta, as follows:

TABLE 32: PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN RICHMOND AND DELTA

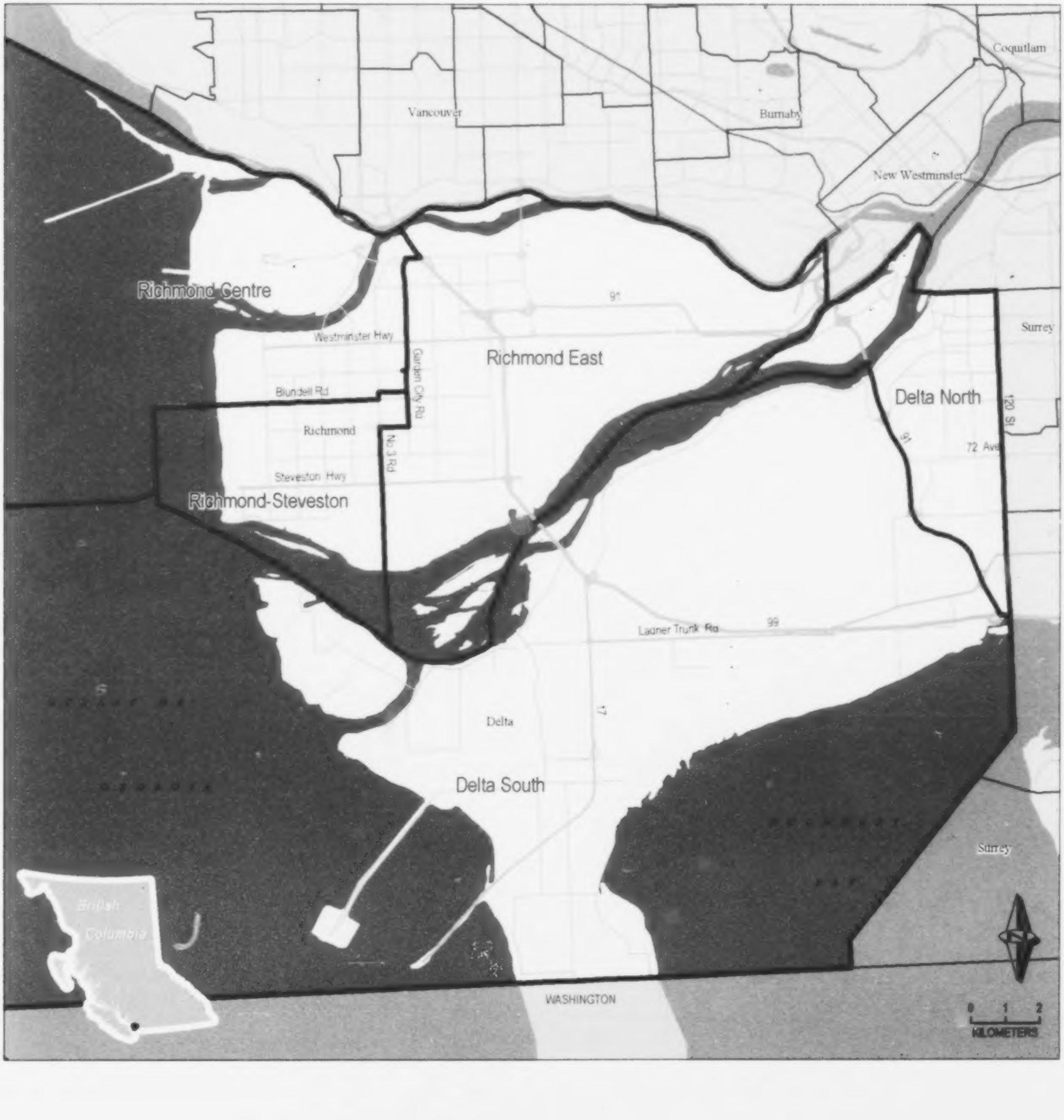
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Richmond Centre	374	55,942	+10.2%
Richmond-Steveston	32	60,721	+19.6%
Richmond East	92	57,798	+13.8%
Delta South	463	45,774	-9.9%
Delta North	32	51,628	+1.7%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

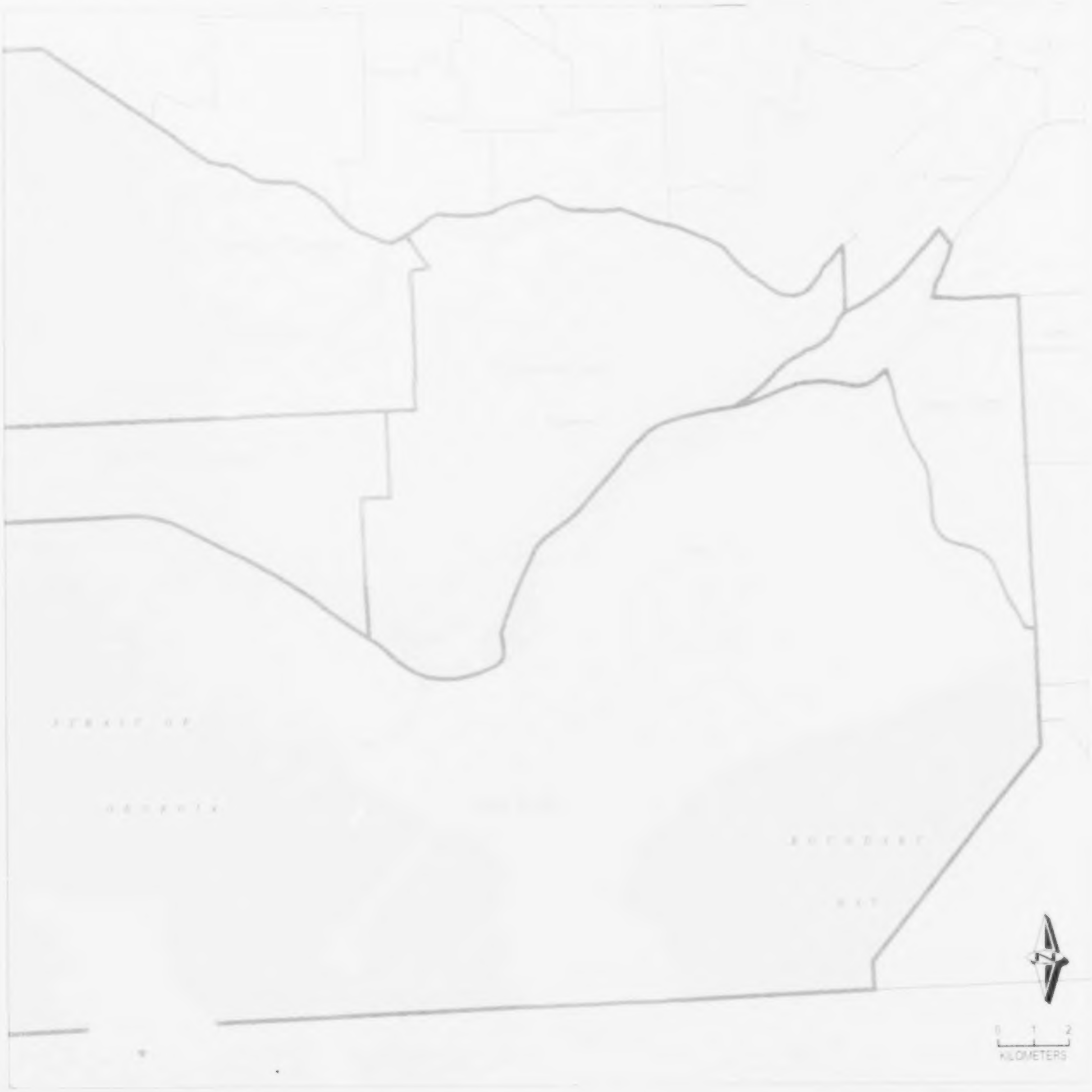
Region: Richmond and Delta – Current Electoral Districts


Vancouver
Burnaby
Coquitlam
New Westminster
Surrey
Richmond Centre
Richmond East
Richmond
Richmond-Steveston
Delta North
Delta
Delta South
91
99
17
1
Westminster Hwy
Garden City Rd
Blundell Rd
No.3 Rd
Steveston Hwy
Ladner Trunk Rd
120 St
72 Ave
STRAIT OF GEORGIA
BOUNDARY BAY
WASHINGTON
British Columbia
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

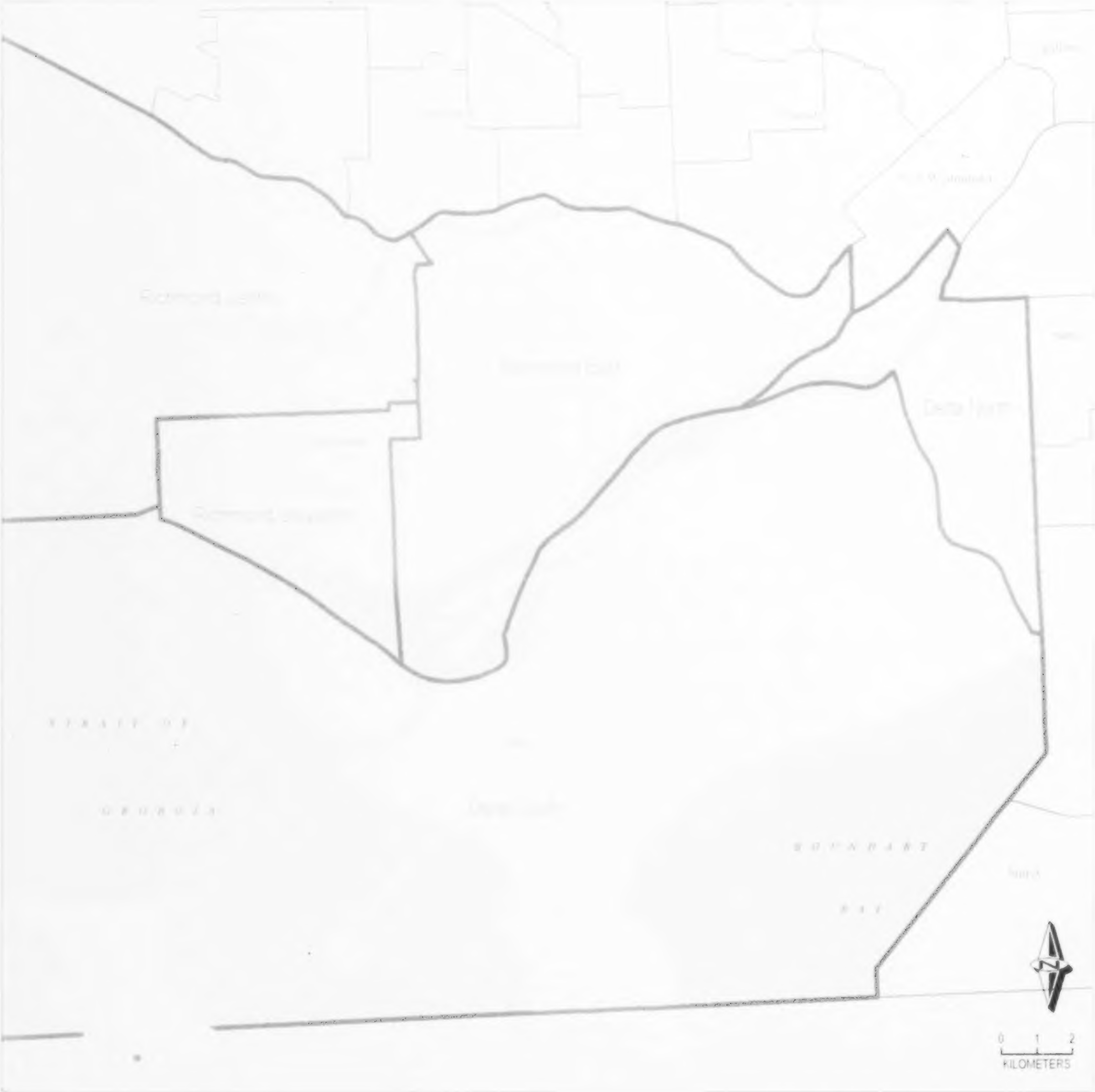
Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Electoral Districts


Coquitlam
Vancouver
Burnaby
New Westminster
Richmond Centre
91
Surrey
Westminster Hwy
Garden City Rd
Richmond East
Delta North
Blundell Rd
120 St
Richmond
No 3 Rd
91
72 Ave
Steveston Hwy
Richmond-Steveston
Ladner Trunk Rd
99
17
Delta
Delta South
Surrey
British Columbia
WASHINGTON
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

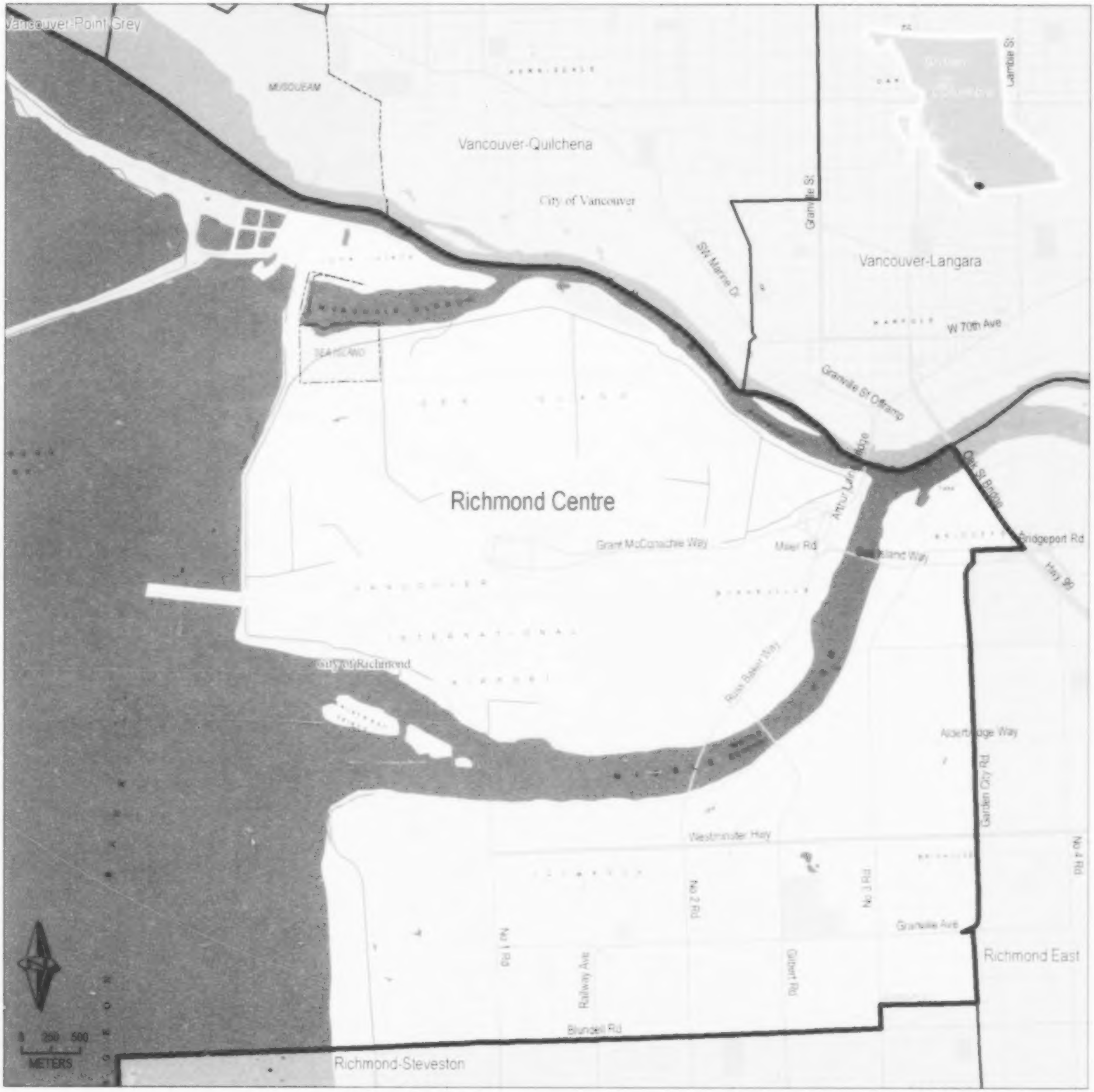
Region: Richmond and Delta – Current Electoral Districts


STRAIT OF
GEORGIA
BOUNDARY
BAY
N
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

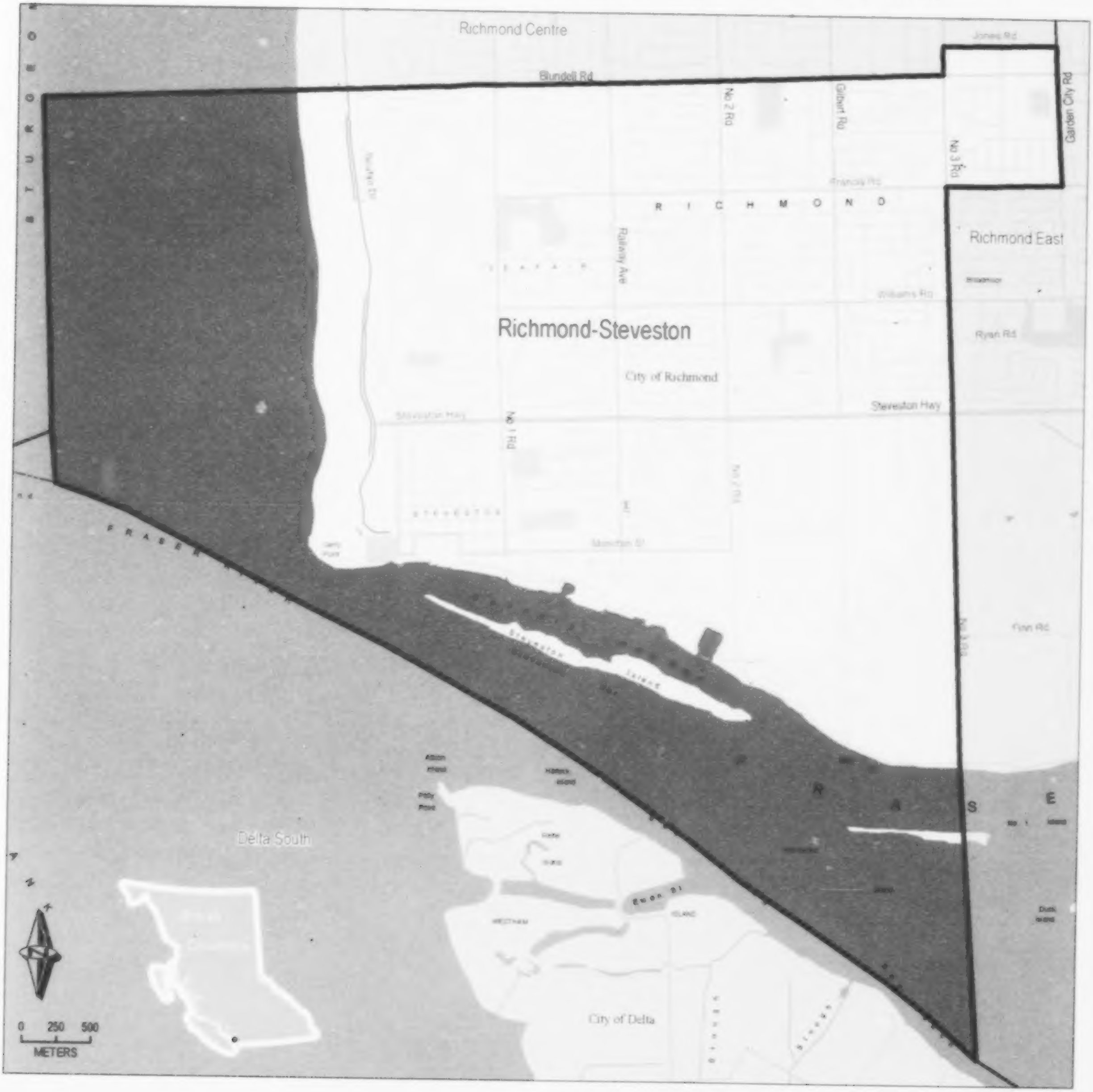
Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Electoral Districts


Richmond Centre
Richmond East
Richmond-Steveston
Delta North
Delta South
New Westminster
STRAIT OF
GEORGIA
BOUNDARY
BAY
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

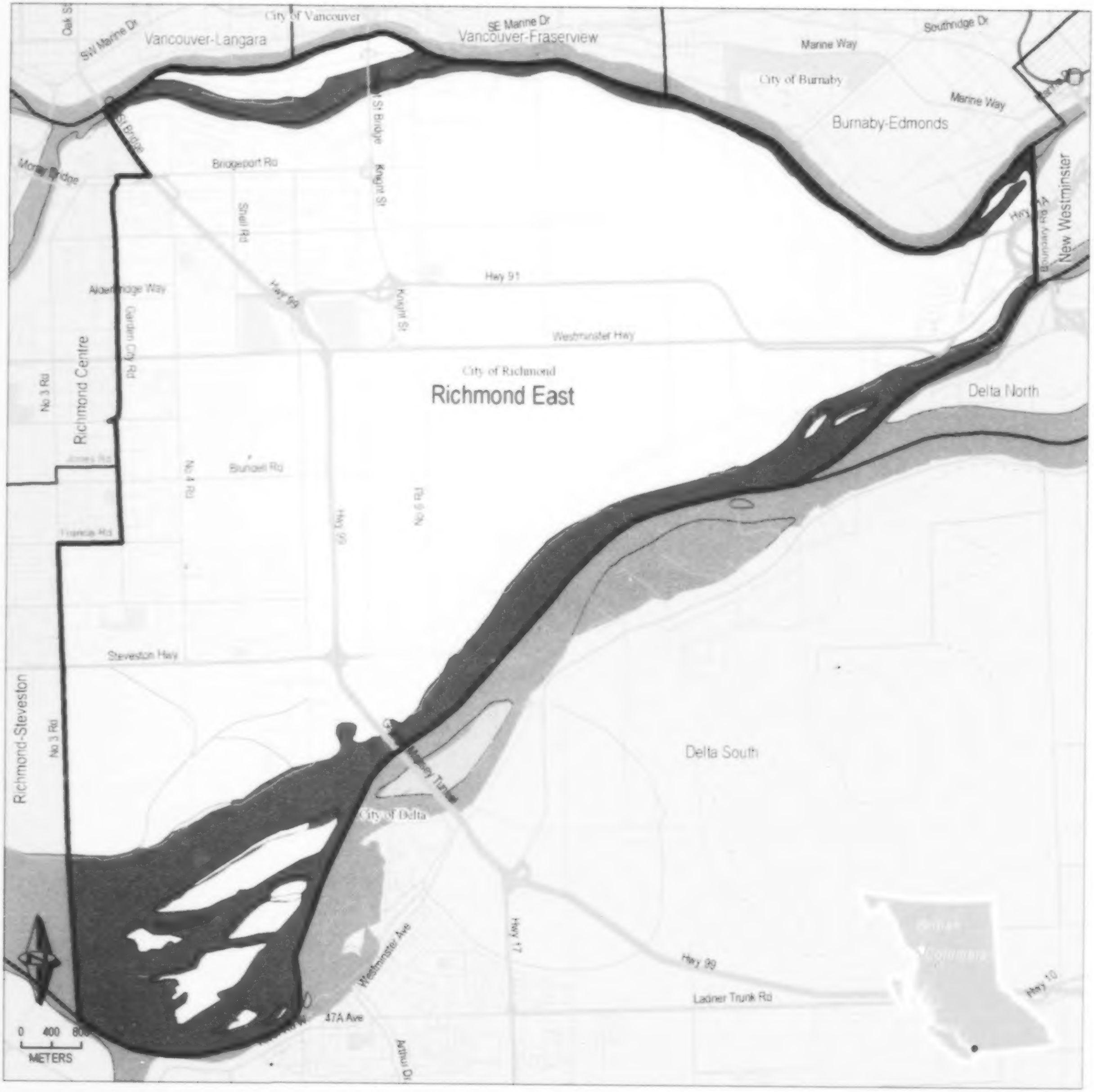
Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond Centre Electoral District


Vancouver-Point Grey
MUSQUEAM
Vancouver-Quilchena
City of Vancouver
SW Marine Dr
Granville St
Cambie St
Vancouver-Langara
W 70th Ave
Granville St Offramp
Arthur Laing Bridge
Oak St Bridge
Bridgeport Rd
Hwy 99
SEA ISLAND
Richmond Centre
Grant McConachie Way
Miller Rd
Sea Island Way
VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Russ Baker Way
City of Richmond
Alderbridge Way
Garden City Rd
Westminster Hwy
No 4 Rd
No 3 Rd
No 2 Rd
No 1 Rd
Railway Ave
Gilbert Rd
Granville Ave
Richmond East
Blundell Rd
Richmond-Steveston
0 250 500
METERS

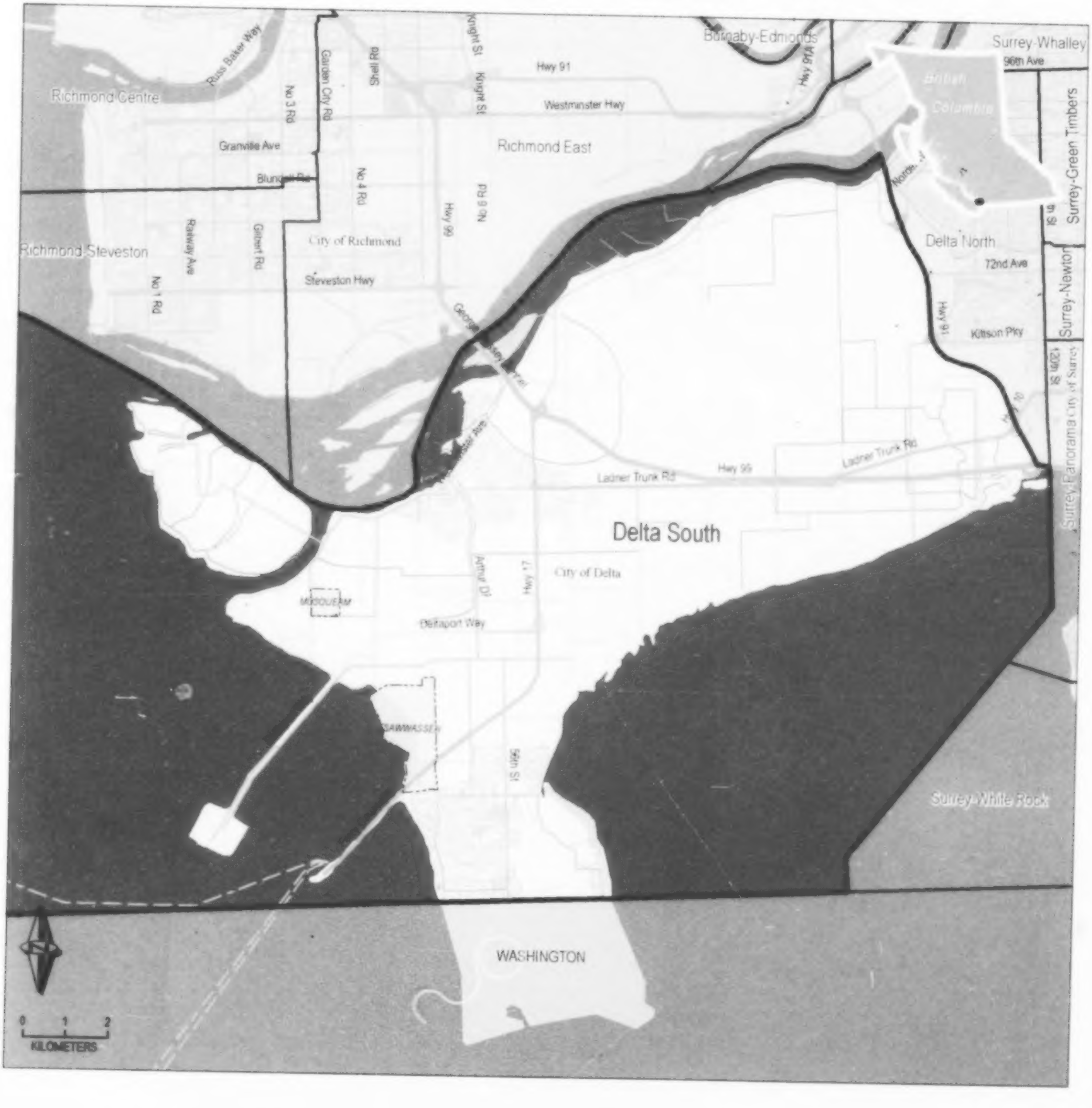
Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond-Steveston Electoral District


Richmond Centre
Jones Rd
Blundell Rd
No 2 Rd
Gilbert Rd
Garden City Rd
No 3 Rd
Francis Rd
RICHMOND
Railway Ave
Richmond East
Williams Rd
Ryan Rd
Richmond-Steveston
City of Richmond
Steveston Hwy
Steveston Hwy
No 1 Rd
STURGEON
FRASER
STEVESTON
Moncton St
Steveston Island
Finn Rd
FRASER
Delta South
City of Delta
WESTHAM
ISLAND
Ewen Sl
0 250 500
METERS

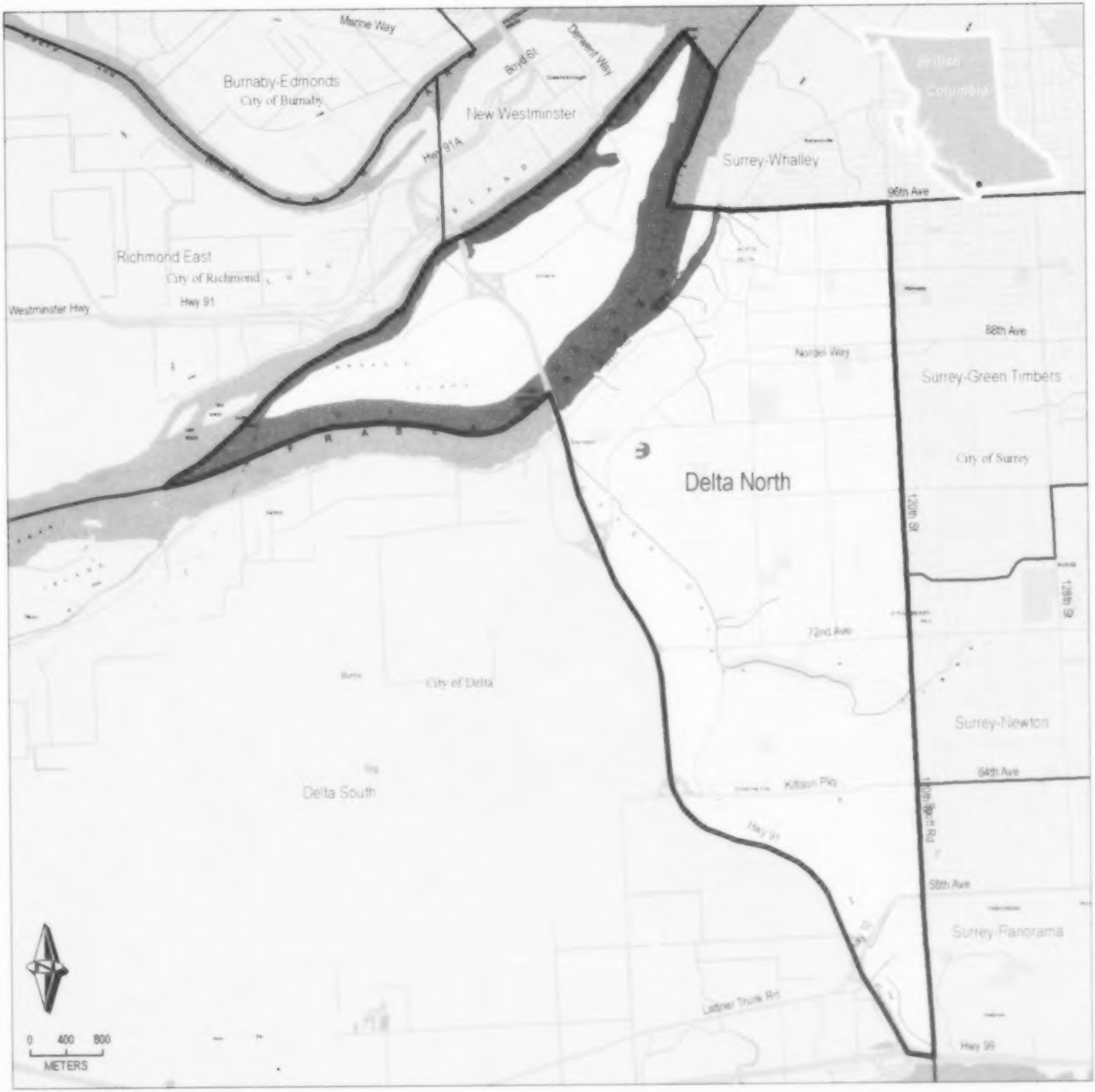
Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond East Electoral District

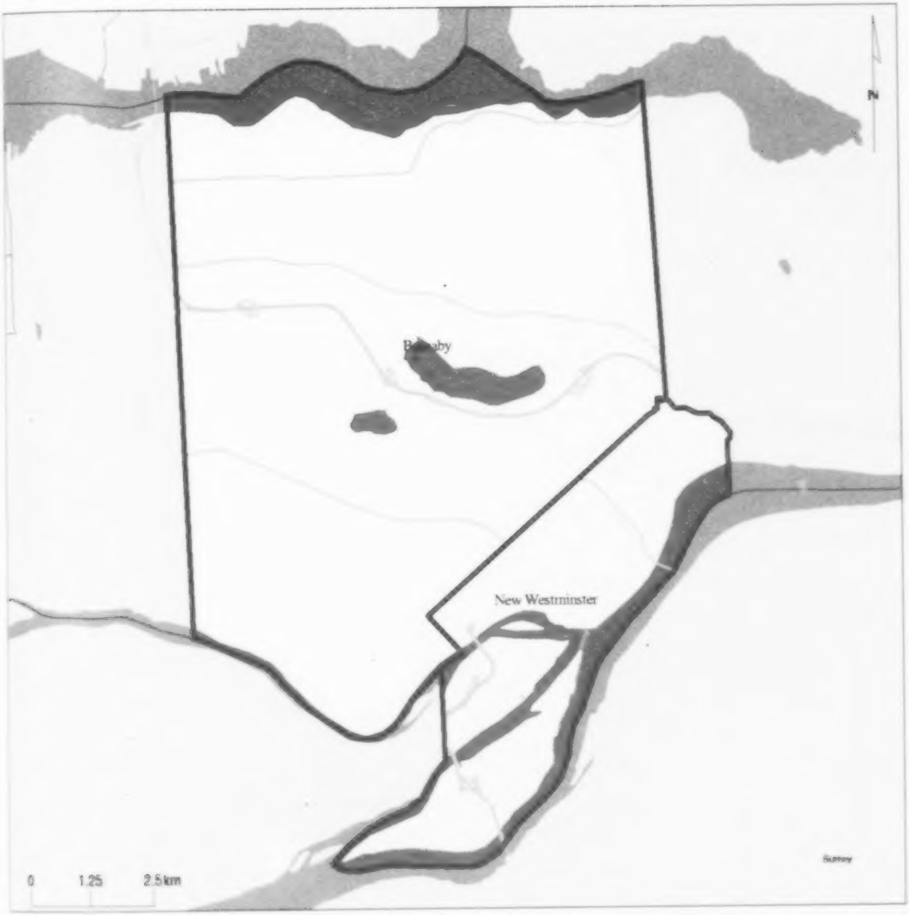

Oak St
SW Marine Dr
City of Vancouver
Vancouver-Langara
SE Marine Dr
Vancouver-Fraserview
Marine Way
Southridge Dr
City of Burnaby
Marine Way
Burnaby-Edmonds
Oak St Bridge
Moray Bridge
Bridgeport Rd
Knight St Bridge
Knight St
Shell Rd
Hwy 91
Hwy 99
Knight St
Alderbridge Way
Garden City Rd
Westminster Hwy
Hwy 91A
Boundary Rd
New Westminster
City of Richmond
Richmond East
Delta North
No 3 Rd
Richmond Centre
Jones Rd
No 4 Rd
Blundell Rd
Hwy 99
Rd 9 No
Francis Rd
Steveston Hwy
Richmond-Steveston
No 3 Rd
George Massey Tunnel
Delta South
City of Delta
Hwy 17
Westminster Ave
Hwy 99
Ladner Trunk Rd
Hwy 10
47A Ave
Arthur Dr
0 400 800
METERS

Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Delta South Electoral District


Burnaby-Edmonds
Surrey-Whalley
96th Ave
Richmond Centre
Russ Baker Way
No 3 Rd
Garden City Rd
Shell Rd
Knight St
Hwy 91
Westminster Hwy
Hwy 91A
British Columbia
Richmond East
Granville Ave
Blundell Rd
No 4 Rd
No 6 Rd
Hwy 99
Nordel
Surrey-Green Timbers
Richmond-Steveston
Railway Ave
Gilbert Rd
City of Richmond
Steveston Hwy
No 1 Rd
Delta North
72nd Ave
Surrey-Newton
Hwy 91
Kittson Pky
120th St
George Massey Tunnel
Westminster Ave
Ladner Trunk Rd
Hwy 99
Ladner Trunk Rd
Surrey-Panorama
City of Surrey
Delta South
Arthur Dr
Hwy 17
City of Delta
MUSQUEAM
Deltaport Way
TSAWWASSEN
56th St
Surrey-White Rock
WASHINGTON
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Delta North Electoral District


Marine Way
Derwent Way
Boyd St
Burnaby-Edmonds
City of Burnaby
New Westminster
Hwy 91A
Surrey-Whalley
British Columbia
96th Ave
Richmond East
City of Richmond
Westminster Hwy
Hwy 91
88th Ave
Nordel Way
Surrey-Green Timbers
F R A S E R
City of Surrey
Delta North
120th St
128th St
72nd Ave
City of Delta
Surrey-Newton
64th Ave
Kittson Pky
Delta South
Hwy 91
120th St/Scott Rd
58th Ave
Surrey Panorama
Ladner Trunk Rd
Hwy 99
0 400 800
METERS


N
Burnaby
New Westminster
Surrey
0 1.25 2.5km

Burnaby, Map 1

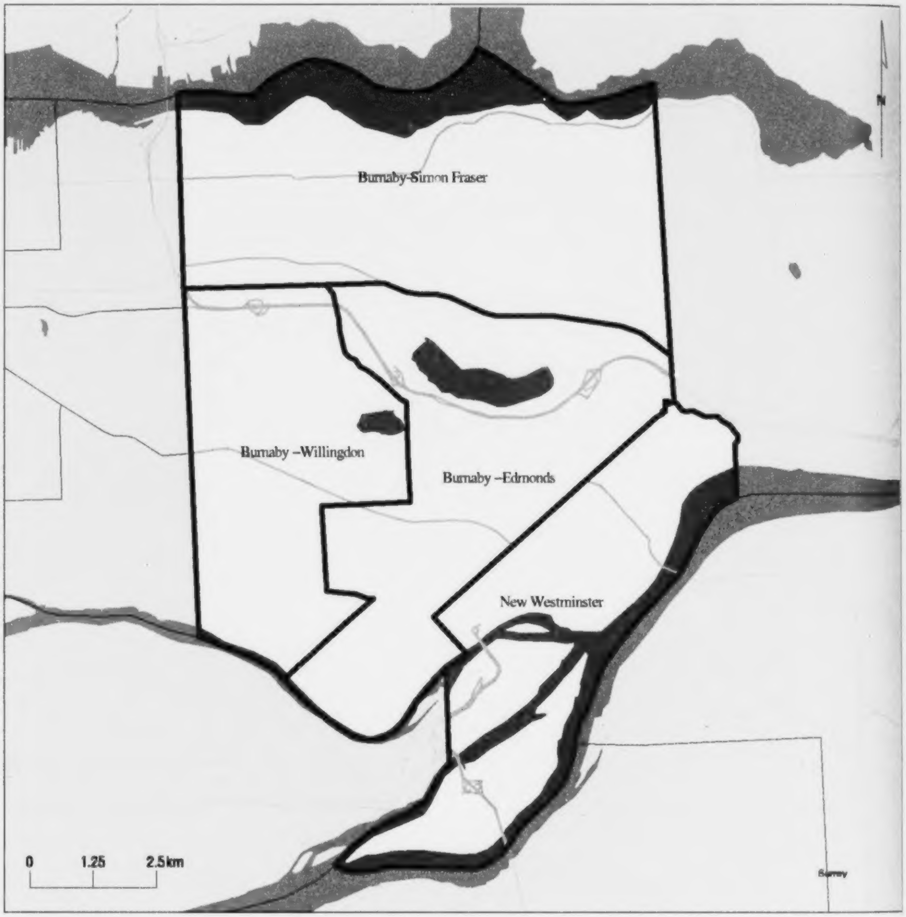
K. Burnaby and New Westminster

1. Evolution of the Burnaby and New Westminster electoral districts Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission, this area had two electoral districts, Burnaby and New Westminster (see Burnaby, Map 1), with Burnaby returning two MLAs.

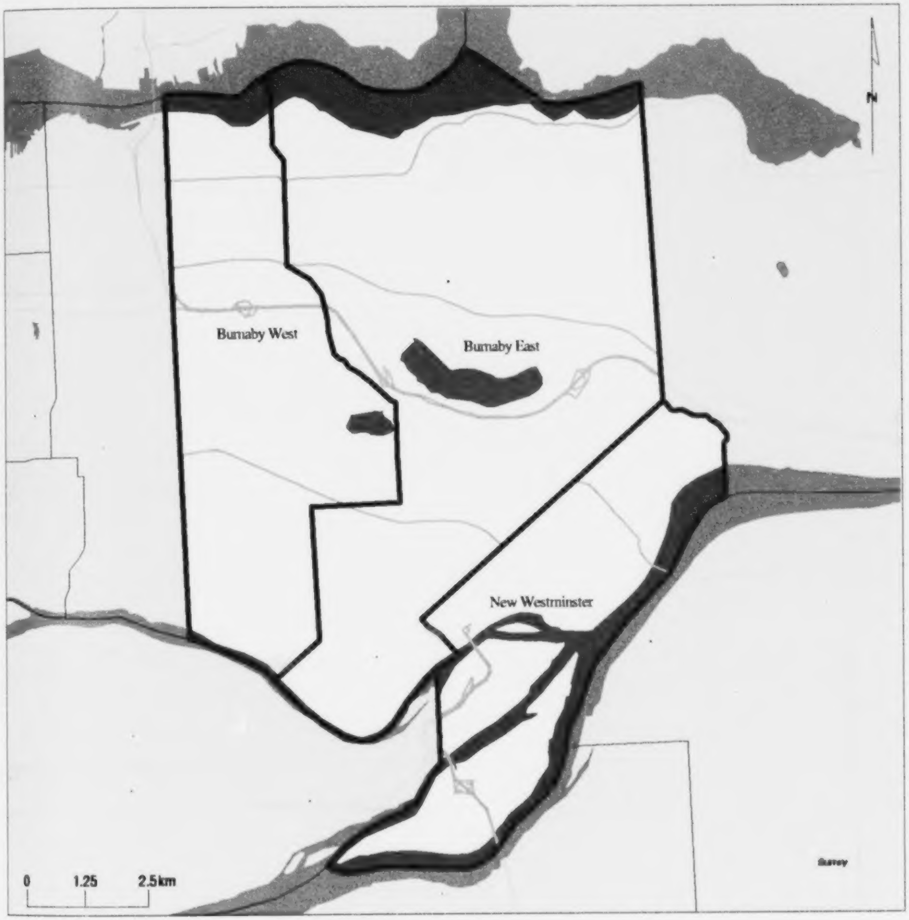
a. The Angus Commission (1966)

In this area, the Angus Commission gave great weight to municipal boundaries. It recommended that the New Westminster district retain its existing boundaries, but that Burnaby be divided into three single-member electoral districts of approximately equal electoral population, to be named Burnaby–Simon Fraser, Burnaby-Edmonds and Burnaby-Willingdon (see Burnaby, Map 2).

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations, but changed the name of Burnaby–Simon Fraser to Burnaby North.


N
Burnaby-Simon Fraser
Burnaby –Willingdon
Burnaby –Edmonds
New Westminster
0
1.25
2.5km
Surrey

Burnaby, Map 2


N
Burnaby West
Burnaby East
New Westminster
Surrey
0
1.25
2.5km

Burnaby, Map 3

b. The Norris Commission (1975)

The Norris Commission recommended that the New Westminster electoral district remain unchanged, but that the three Burnaby electoral districts be reduced to two (Burnaby East and Burnaby West), each returning two MLAs (see Burnaby, Map 3).

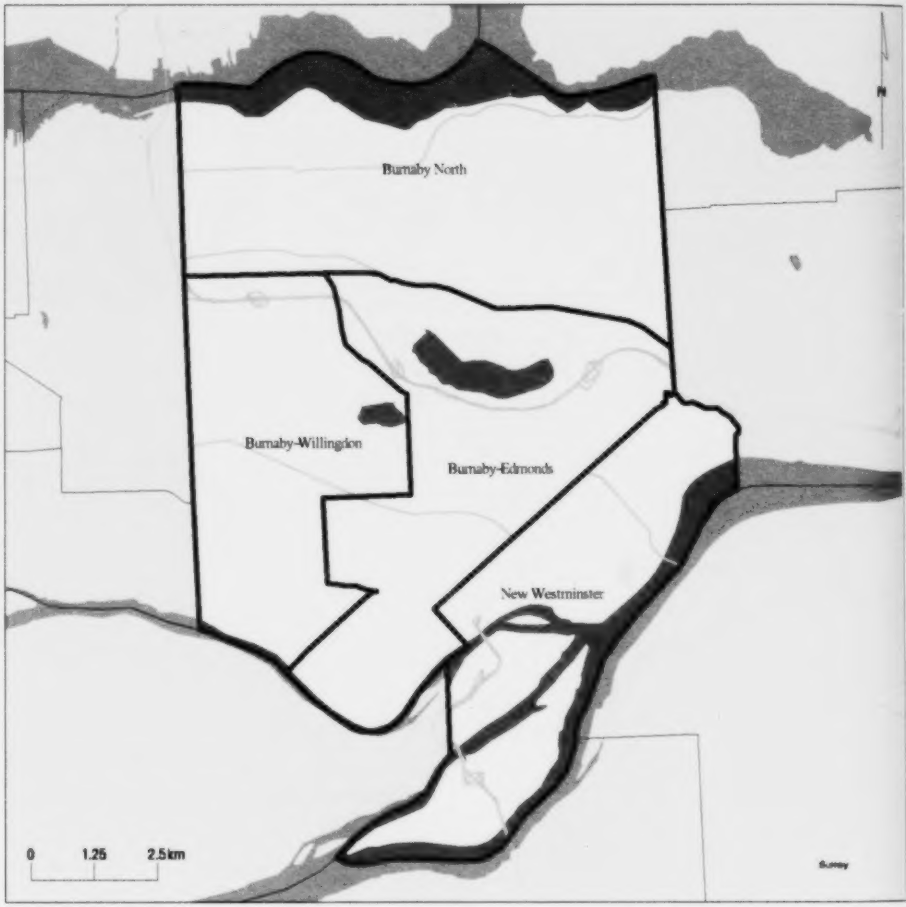
The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt recommended that the northeast corner of the New Westminster district be altered slightly, to bring the boundary in line with the municipal boundary. He also recommended that the three Burnaby electoral districts remain unchanged (see Burnaby, Map 4).

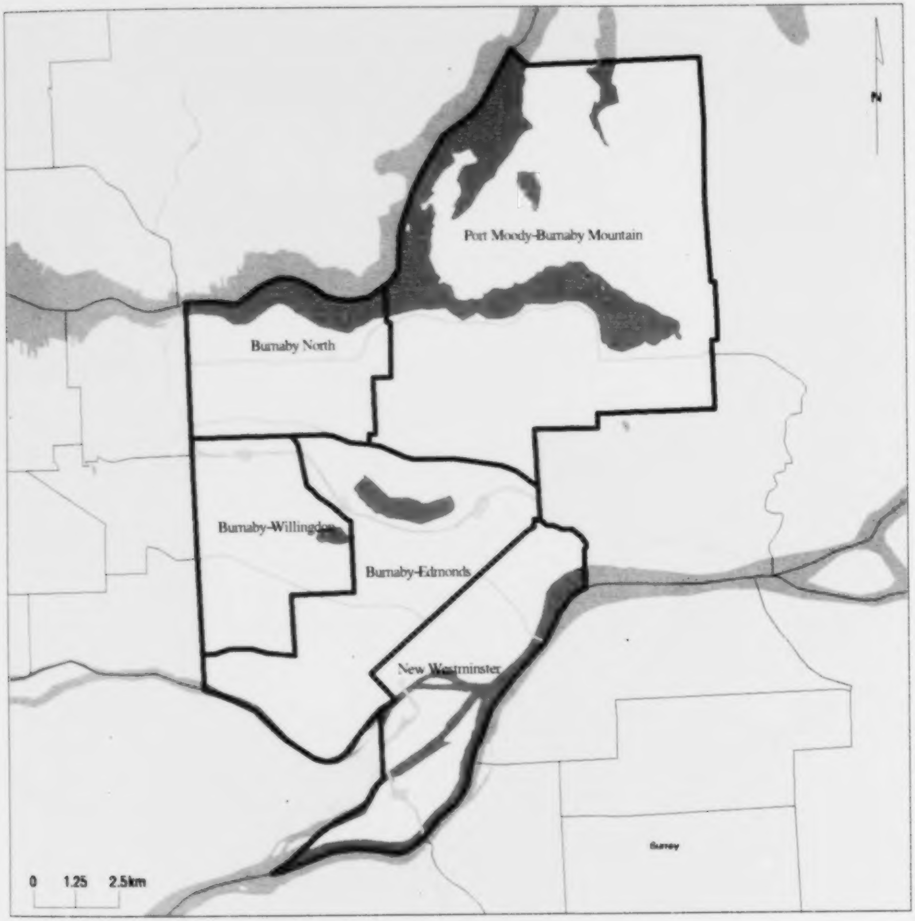
The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected these electoral districts.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected these electoral districts.


Burnaby North
Burnaby-Willingdon
Burnaby-Edmonds
New Westminster
0
1.25
2.5km
Surrey

Burnaby, Map 4


N
Port Moody-Burnaby Mountain
Burnaby North
Burnaby-Willingdon
Burnaby-Edmonds
New Westminster
Surrey
0 1.25 2.5km

Burnaby, Map 5

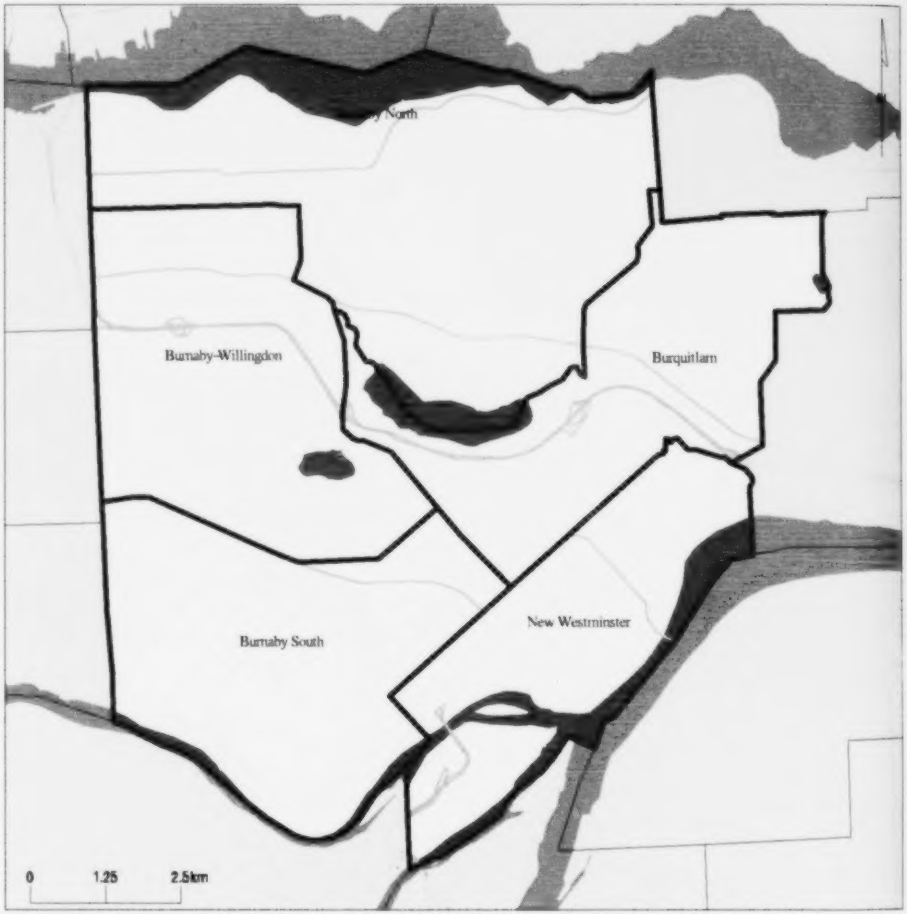
f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
Judge Fisher recommended that the boundaries of the New Westminster electoral district remain unchanged. Due to under-representation in the Burnaby and Coquitlam areas, he recommended that a new Port Moody–Burnaby Mountain district be created (see Burnaby, Map 5), whereby the northeast quadrant of Burnaby would be joined with Port Moody.

The Legislative Assembly adopted Judge Fisher's recommendations.

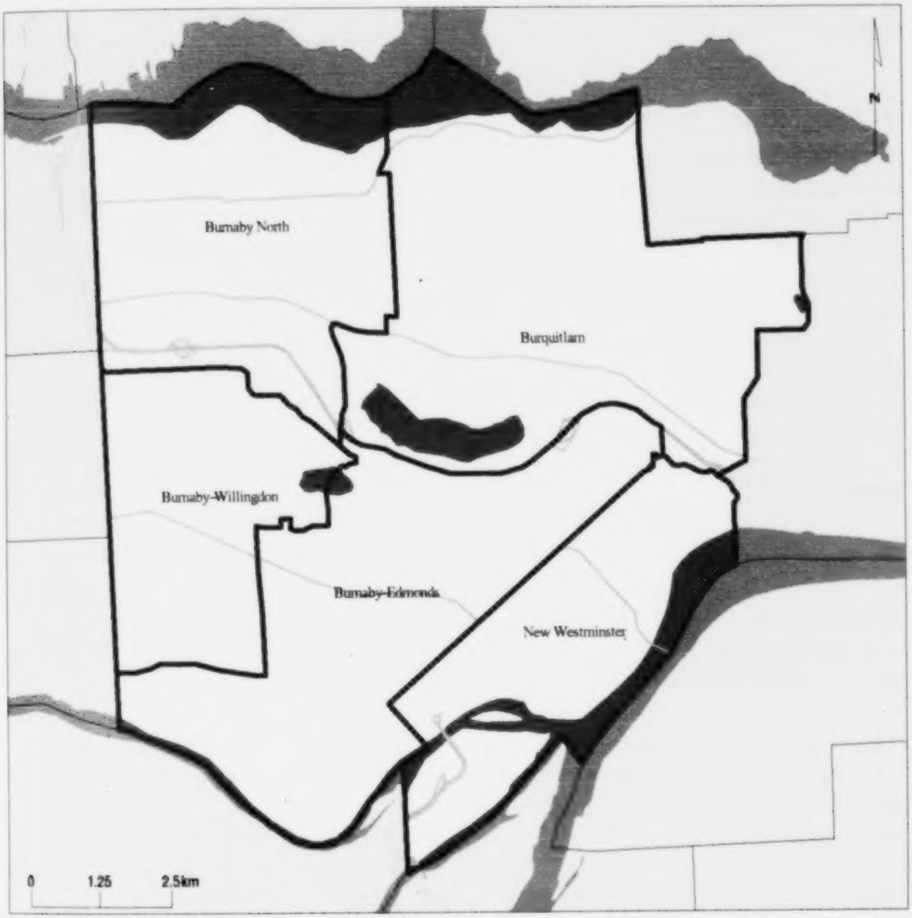
g. The Wood Commission (1999)

In its interim report, the commission recommended that the New Westminster district retain its existing boundaries (see Burnaby, Map 6), except that Annacis Island, which is within the municipality of Delta, should be transferred to Delta North. Being non-residential, the relocation of Annacis Island would have no population distribution consequences.

With respect to Burnaby, the commission recognized that population growth in Burnaby-Edmonds (plus 23 percent) mandated redrawing of electoral boundaries. Although the commission sought, wherever possible, to propose electoral districts that were consistent with municipal boundaries, it was unable to do so in this case – the electoral districts proposed by the City of Burnaby and others produced populations too low to be justified in Burnaby, given its urban density and growth rates, which were generally close to the overall provincial rate.



Burnaby, Map 6



Burnaby, Map 7

The commission was dissatisfied with the existing Port Moody–Burnaby Mountain boundary, because it encompassed parts of three municipalities (Burnaby, Coquitlam and Port Moody). Instead, it proposed that Burnaby share an electoral district only with that portion of Coquitlam which is adjacent to Burnaby, in a district to be called Burquitlam.

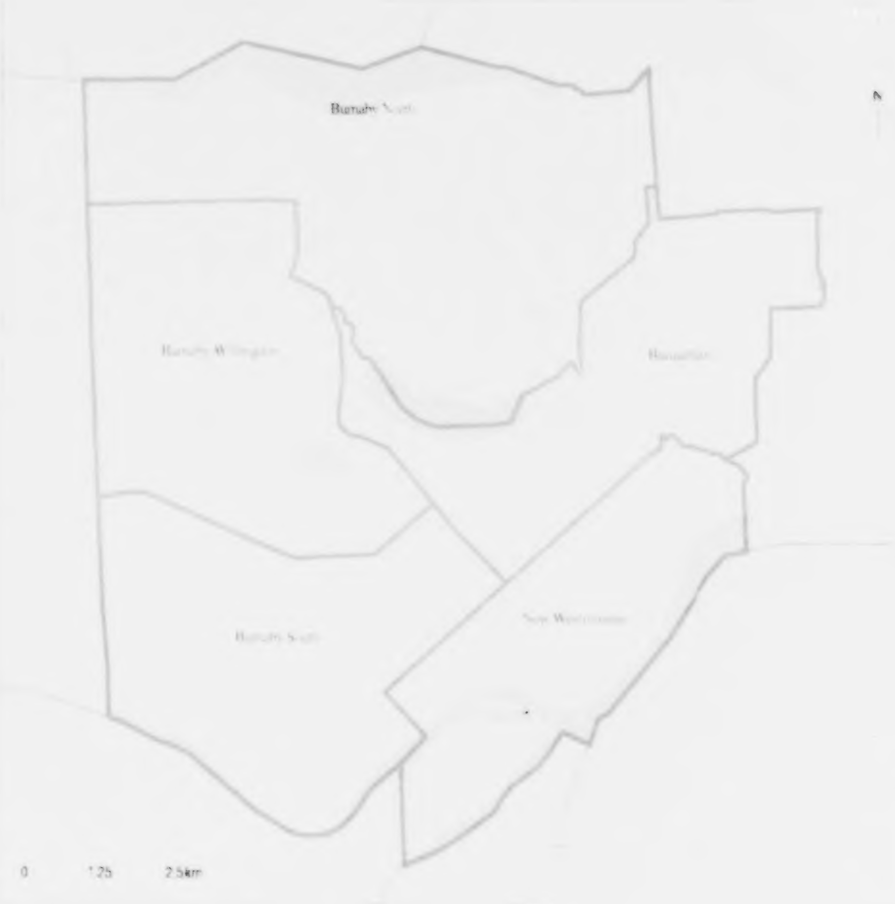
In its final report, the commission made no changes to its proposed New Westminster boundaries, but significantly reworked its recommendations for the remaining four Burnaby electoral districts (see Burnaby, Map 7), accepting the City of Burnaby's submissions that these electoral districts should be consistent with the city's "four quadrant structure" reflected in the city's official community plan, each with a town centre as its focus.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

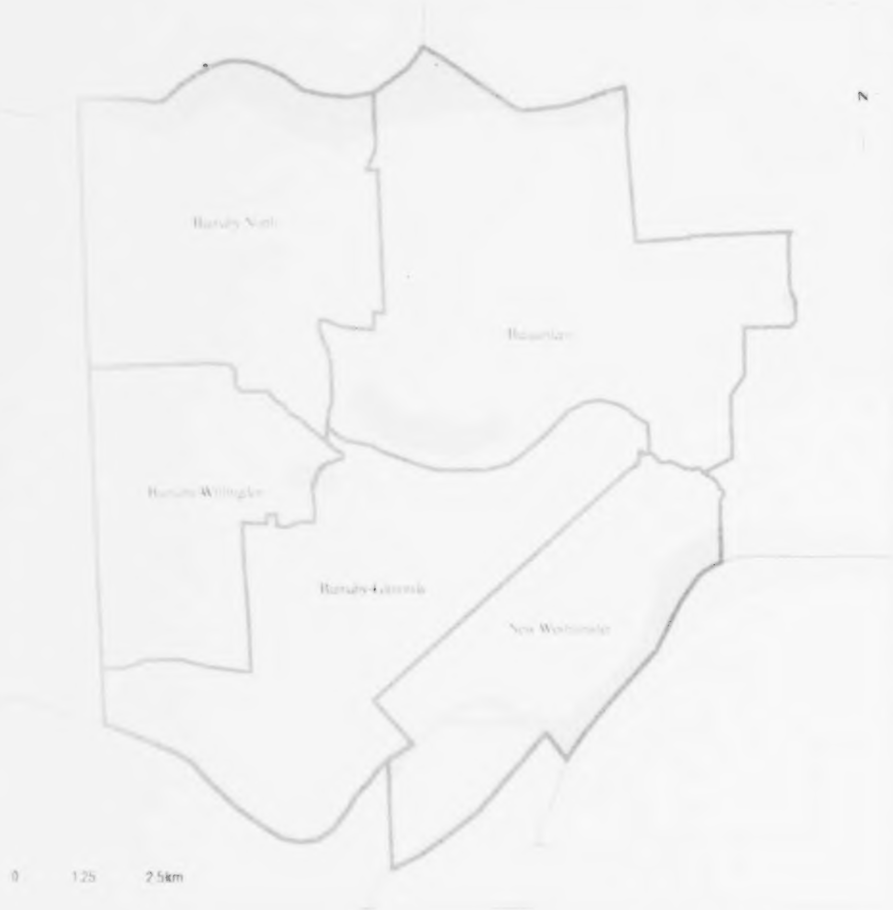
a) *The Fisher Commission (1988)*

In its interim report, the commission recommended that the New Westminster district retain its existing boundaries (see Burnaby, Map 6), except that Annacis Island, which is within the municipality of Delta, should be transferred to Delta North. Being non-residential, the relocation of Annacis Island would have no population distribution consequences.

With respect to Burnaby, the commission recognized that population growth in Burnaby-Edmonds (plus 23 per cent) mandated redrawing of electoral boundaries. Although the commission sought, wherever possible, to propose electoral districts that were consistent with municipal boundaries, it was unable to do so in this case – the electoral districts proposed by the City of Burnaby and others produced populations too low to be justified in Burnaby, given its urban density and growth rates, which were generally close to the overall provincial rate.



Burnaby, Map 6



Burnaby, Map 7

The commission was dissatisfied with the existing Port Moody–Burnaby Mountain boundary, because it encompassed parts of three municipalities (Burnaby, Coquitlam and Port Moody). Instead, it proposed that Burnaby share an electoral district only with that portion of Coquitlam which is adjacent to Burnaby, in a district to be called Burquitlam.

In its final report, the commission made no changes to its proposed New Westminster boundaries, but significantly reworked its recommendations for the remaining four Burnaby electoral districts (see Burnaby, Map 7), accepting the City of Burnaby's submissions that these electoral districts should be consistent with the city's "four quadrant structure" reflected in the city's official community plan, each with a town centre as its focus.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

2. Our analysis of the Burnaby and New Westminster electoral districts

The region we define as Burnaby–New Westminster includes the municipalities of Burnaby and New Westminster. The City of Burnaby has three electoral districts exclusively within its municipal boundaries, and shares the Burquitlam electoral district with the City of Coquitlam (see map on page 240.) The New Westminster electoral district corresponds exactly with the City of New Westminster. These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 23):

TABLE 23: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN BURNABY AND NEW WESTMINSTER

Electoral District	**1996 deviation***	**2006 deviation****
Burnaby North	+8.7%	+5.6%
Burnaby-Willingdon	+2.8%	+4.7%
Burnaby-Edmonds	+5.8%	+19.6%
Burquitlam	+8.8%	+2.5%
New Westminster	+4.7%	+12.4%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

The New Westminster electoral district, corresponding exactly to the City of New Westminster's municipal boundaries, has a population of 58,549. If it continues as an electoral district, it will have a deviation of plus 15.3 percent (based on 81 electoral districts). The City of Burnaby has a population of 202,799. If it were to have four electoral districts exclusively within its municipal boundaries, the average deviation would be minus 0.2 percent, based on 81 districts.

We received many submissions urging us to create four electoral districts within Burnaby, although none in favour of preserving the Burquitlam district that straddles the Burnaby/City of Coquitlam boundary. The Wood Commission reluctantly created that district in 1999 because it was not persuaded that Burnaby's population justified four electoral districts.

If we balanced the combined population of Burnaby and New Westminster, we could create five electoral districts with populations averaging close to the provincial quotient. However, to do so would mean crossing municipal boundaries. We are persuaded that New Westminster should continue to have its own electoral district (see map of proposed New Westminster electoral district page 242), notwithstanding a deviation of plus 15.3 percent. In our view, this is a case where community interests based on municipality should take priority over population equality.

Turning to Burnaby, it is a densely populated urban area with a rapidly growing population. There are many new condominium developments around Brentwood Town Centre, along Lougheed Highway and in the HighGate Village development. The UniverCity project on Burnaby Mountain adjacent to SFU alone will add more than 10,000 residents. Creating four electoral districts within Burnaby would result in deviations averaging minus 0.2 percent. We are satisfied that the population of Burnaby supports four electoral districts.

There are four town centers in Burnaby – Brentwood, Lougheed, Metrotown and Edmonds. We have done our best to develop electoral boundaries that respect these development areas, while at the same time trying to balance the population among all four electoral districts (see maps of proposed four Burnaby electoral districts pages 241-246).

3. Conclusion

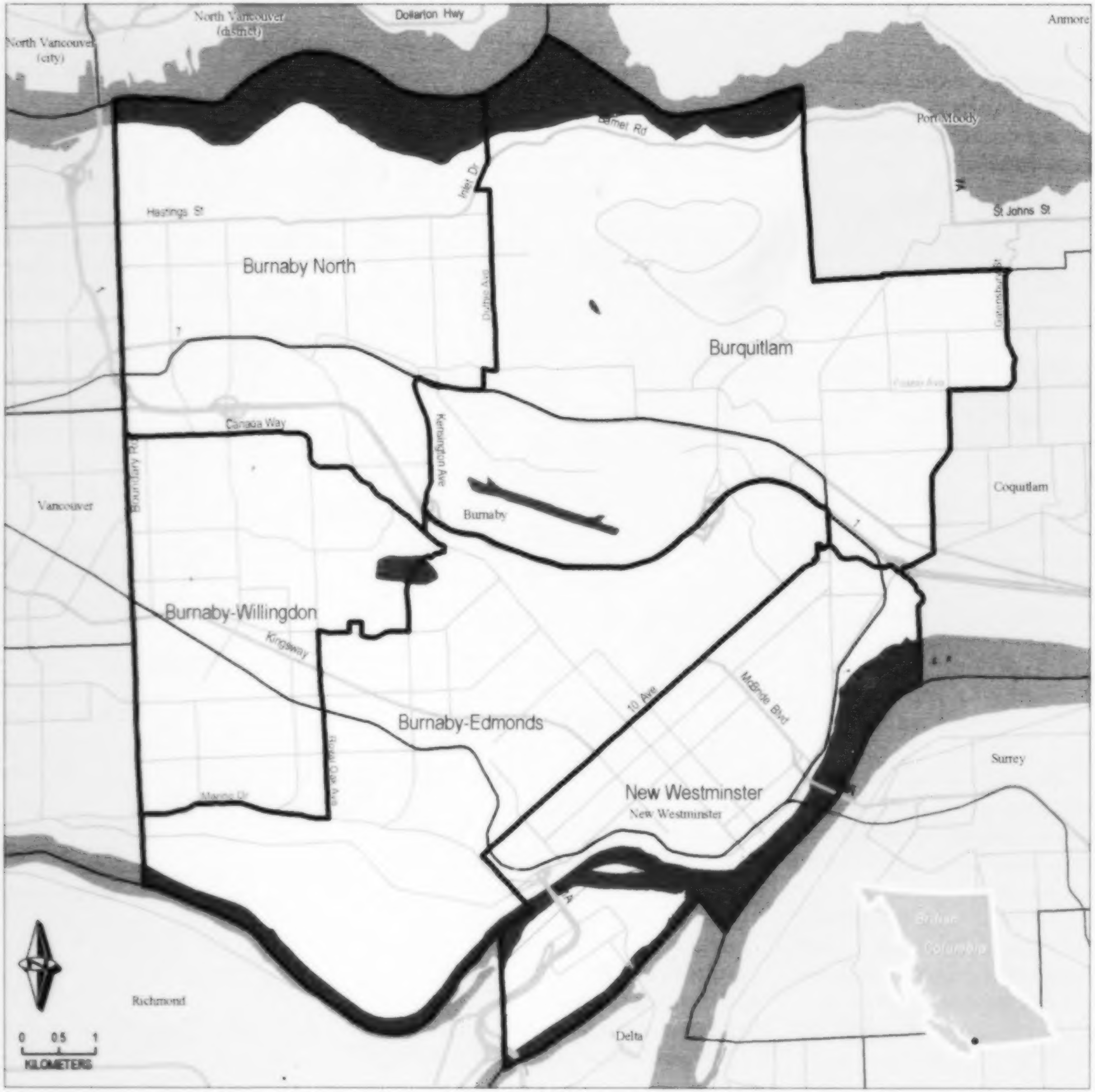
Accordingly, we propose that there be four electoral districts in Burnaby and one electoral district in New Westminster, as follows:

TABLE 9.24 PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN BURNABY AND NEW WESTMINSTER

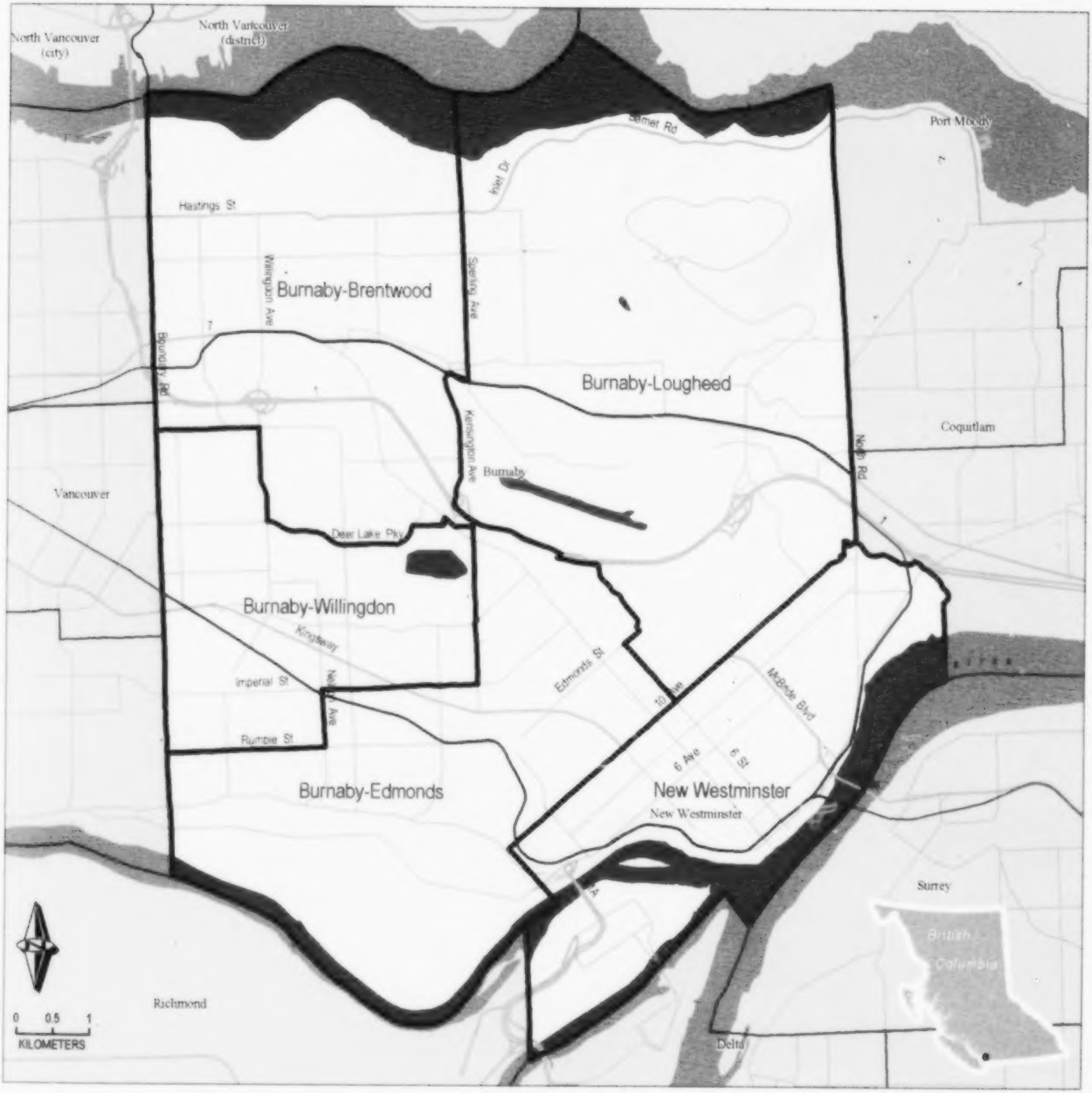
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Burnaby-Brentwood	24	51,274	+1%
Burnaby-Lougheed	37	50,229	-1.1%
Burnaby-Willingdon	13	50,957	+0.3%
Burnaby-Edmonds	23	50,339	-0.9%
New Westminster	18	58,549	+15.3%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

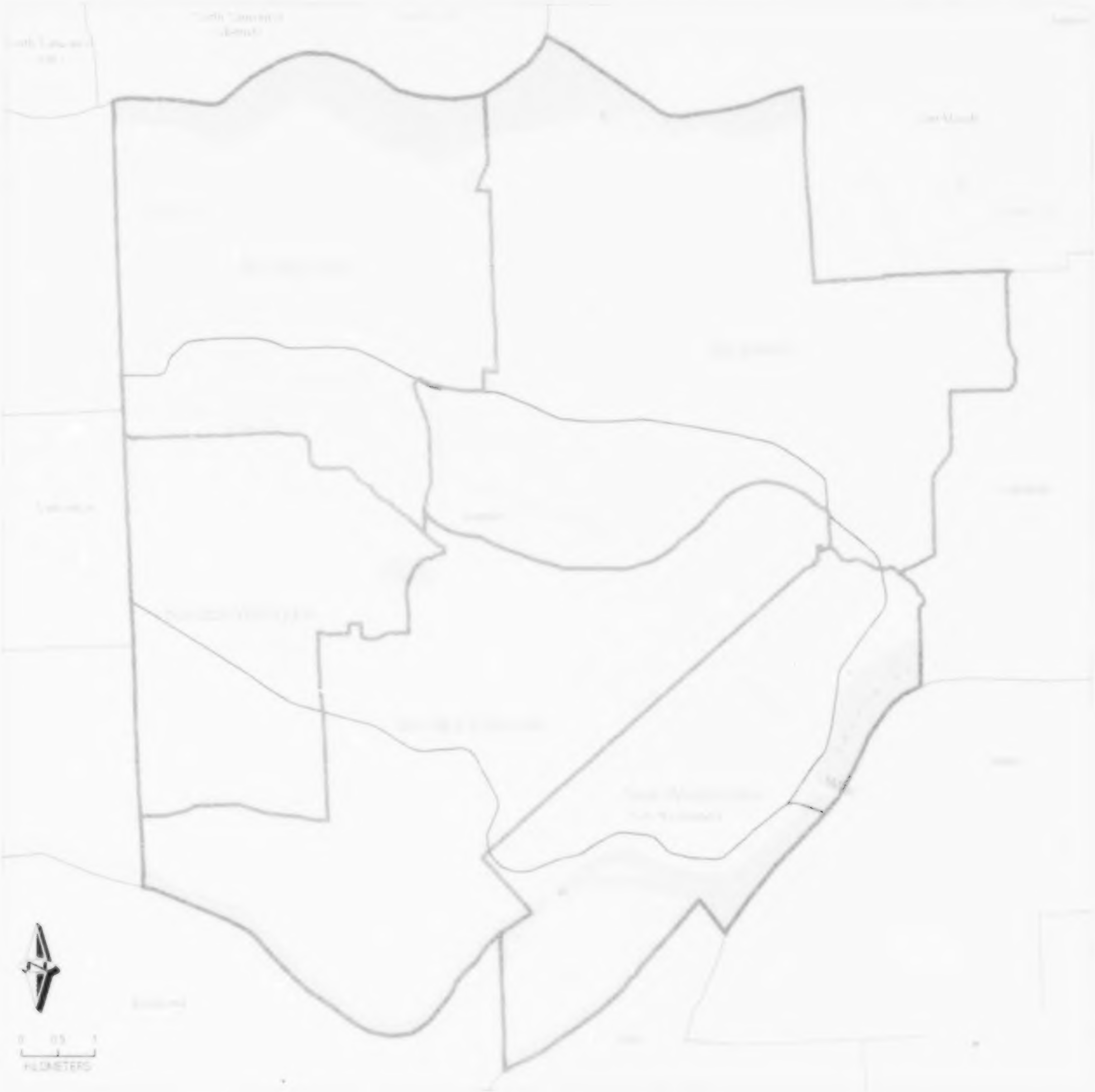
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Current Electoral Districts


North Vancouver (district)
Dollarton Hwy
Anmore
North Vancouver (city)
Barnet Rd
Port Moody
Inlet Dr
Hastings St
St Johns St
Burnaby North
Duthie Ave
Gatensbury St
Burquitlam
Canada Way
Kensington Ave
Burnaby
Coquitlam
Vancouver
Boundary Rd
Burnaby-Willingdon
Kingsway
10 Ave
McBride Blvd
Burnaby-Edmonds
Royal Oak Ave
Marine Dr
New Westminster
New Westminster
Surrey
British Columbia
Richmond
Delta
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS

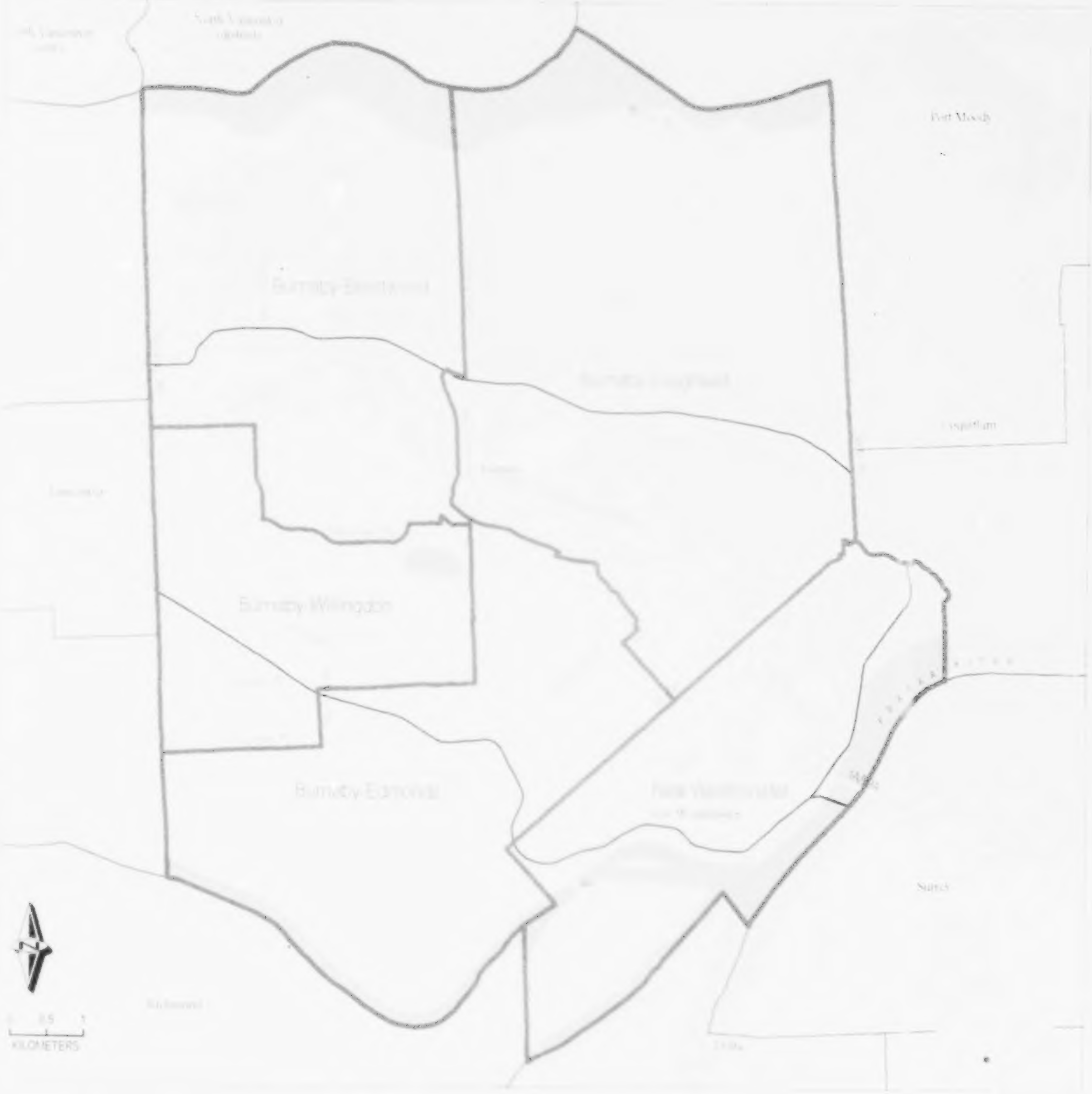
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Electoral Districts


North Vancouver (city)
North Vancouver (district)
Barnet Rd
Port Moody
Inlet Dr
Hastings St
Willingdon Ave
Sperling Ave
Burnaby-Brentwood
7
Boundary Rd
Burnaby-Lougheed
Kensington Ave
Coquitlam
North Rd
Burnaby
Vancouver
1
Deer Lake Pky
Burnaby-Willingdon
Kingsway
Edmonds St
McBride Blvd
Imperial St
Nelson Ave
10 Ave
Rumble St
6 Ave
6 St
Burnaby-Edmonds
New Westminster
New Westminster
1A
Surrey
British Columbia
Richmond
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
Delta

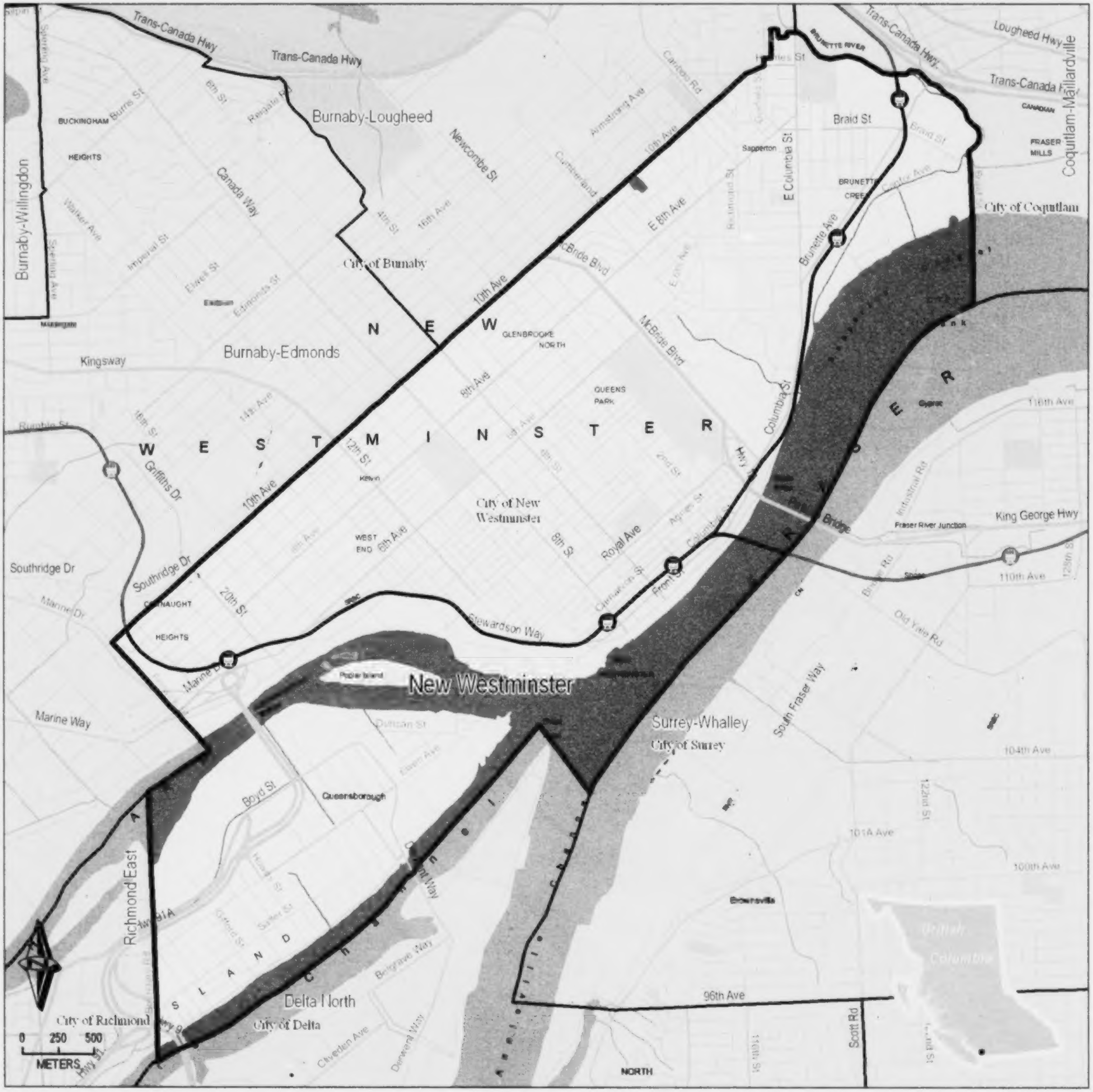
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Current Electoral Districts


0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS

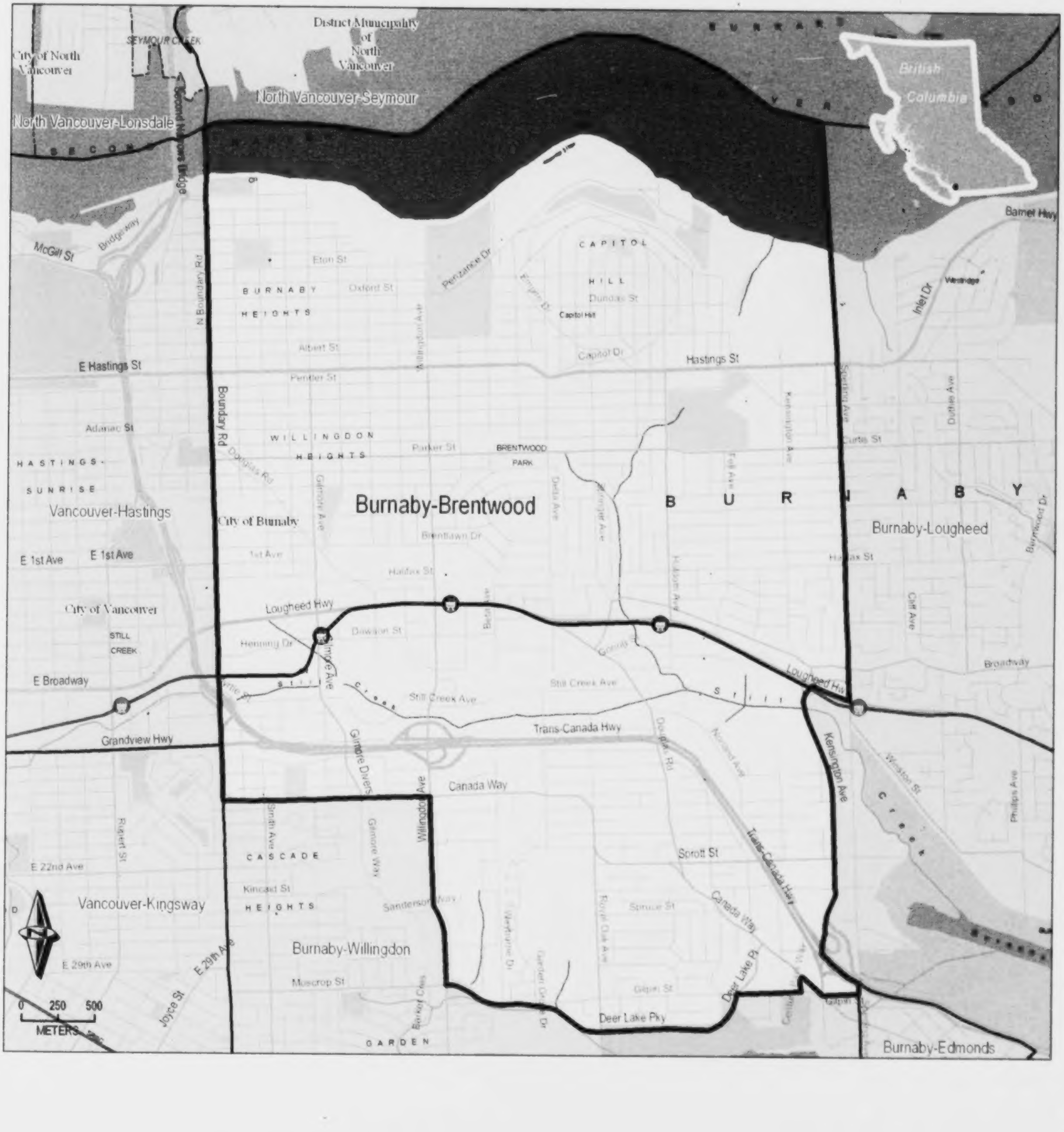
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Electoral Districts


North Vancouver (city)
North Vancouver (district)
Port Moody
Burnaby-Brentwood
Burnaby-Lougheed
Coquitlam
Vancouver
Burnaby-Willingdon
Burnaby-Edmonds
New Westminster
FRASER RIVER
Surrey
Richmond
Delta
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS

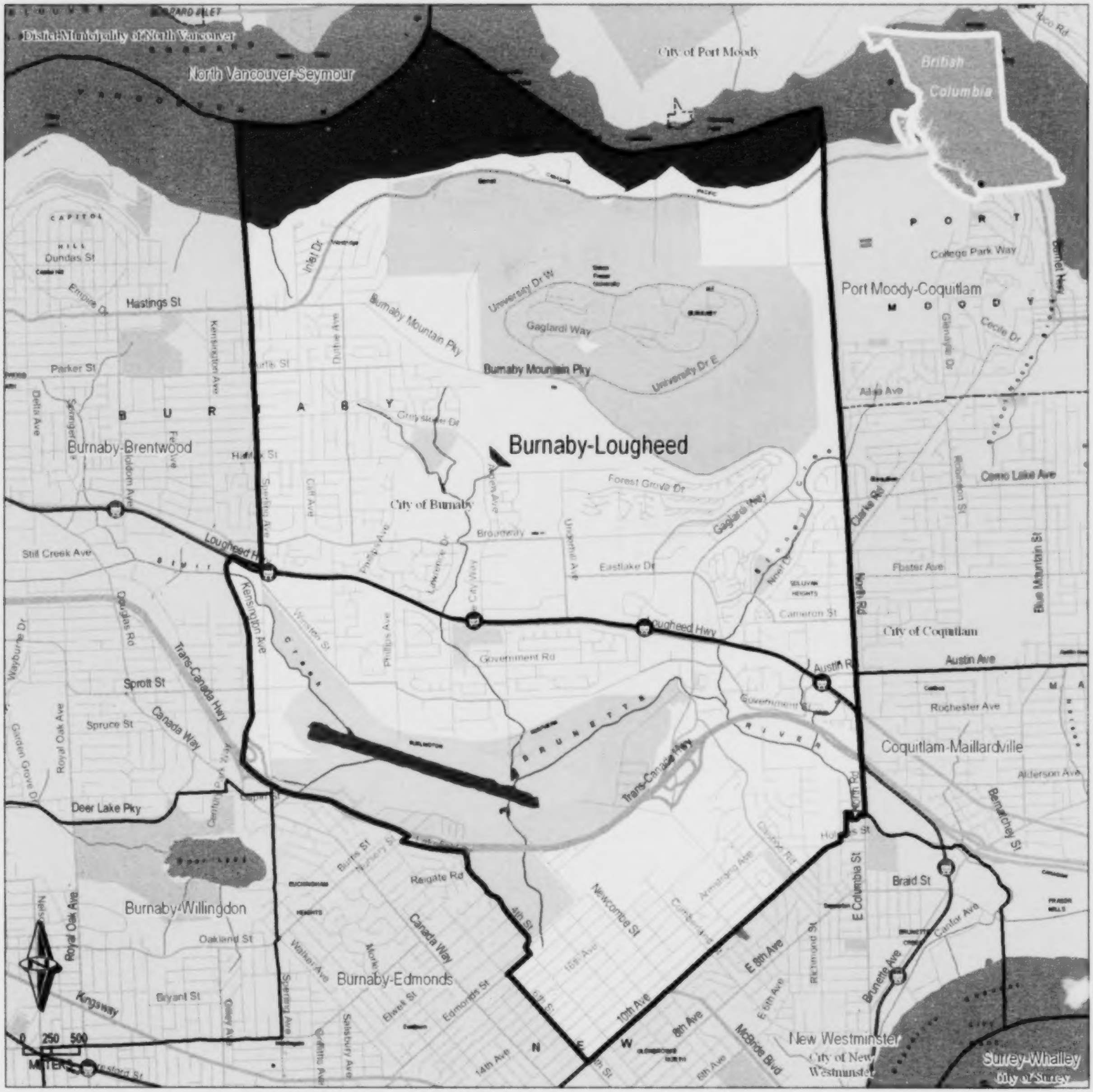
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed New Westminster Electoral District


Trans-Canada Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
Burnaby-Lougheed
Burnaby-Willingdon
BUCKINGHAM
HEIGHTS
Burris St
6th St
Canada Way
Newcombe St
Cumberland
Armstrong Ave
Cariboo Rd
10th Ave
4th St
16th Ave
City of Burnaby
Walker Ave
Sperling Ave
Imperial St
Elwell St
Edmonds St
Edmonds
10th Ave
McBride Blvd
E 8th Ave
N E W
GLENBROOKE NORTH
Burnaby-Edmonds
Kingsway
QUEENS PARK
Rumble St
W E S T M I N S T E R
Griffiths Dr
10th Ave
12th St
Kelvin
8th Ave
City of New Westminster
WEST END
6th Ave
6th St
Royal Ave
Agnes St
Columbia St
Southridge Dr
Southridge Dr
CONNAUGHT HEIGHTS
20th St
Marine Dr
Stewardson Way
Front St
Columbia St
Marine Way
Poplar Island
New Westminster
Duncan St
Ewen Ave
Boyd St
Queensborough
Howes St
Salter St
Gifford St
Derwent Way
Belgrave Way
A N N A C I S   I S L A N D
Annacis Channel
Richmond East
Hwy 91A
City of Richmond
Delta North
City of Delta
Cliveden Ave
Derwent Way
0 250 500
METERS
Hwy 91
NORTH
Holmes St
Sapperton
E Columbia St
Braid St
Braid St
BRUNETTE RIVER
BRUNETTE CREEK
Brunette Ave
Trans-Canada Hwy
Lougheed Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
CANADIAN
FRASER MILLS
Coquitlam-Maillardville
City of Coquitlam
F R A S E R   R I V E R
Pattullo Bridge
Fraser River Junction
Industrial Rd
King George Hwy
116th Ave
110th Ave
Bridge Rd
Old Yale Rd
South Fraser Way
Surrey-Whalley
City of Surrey
104th Ave
101A Ave
100th Ave
122nd St
Brownsville
96th Ave
116th St
Scott Rd
British Columbia

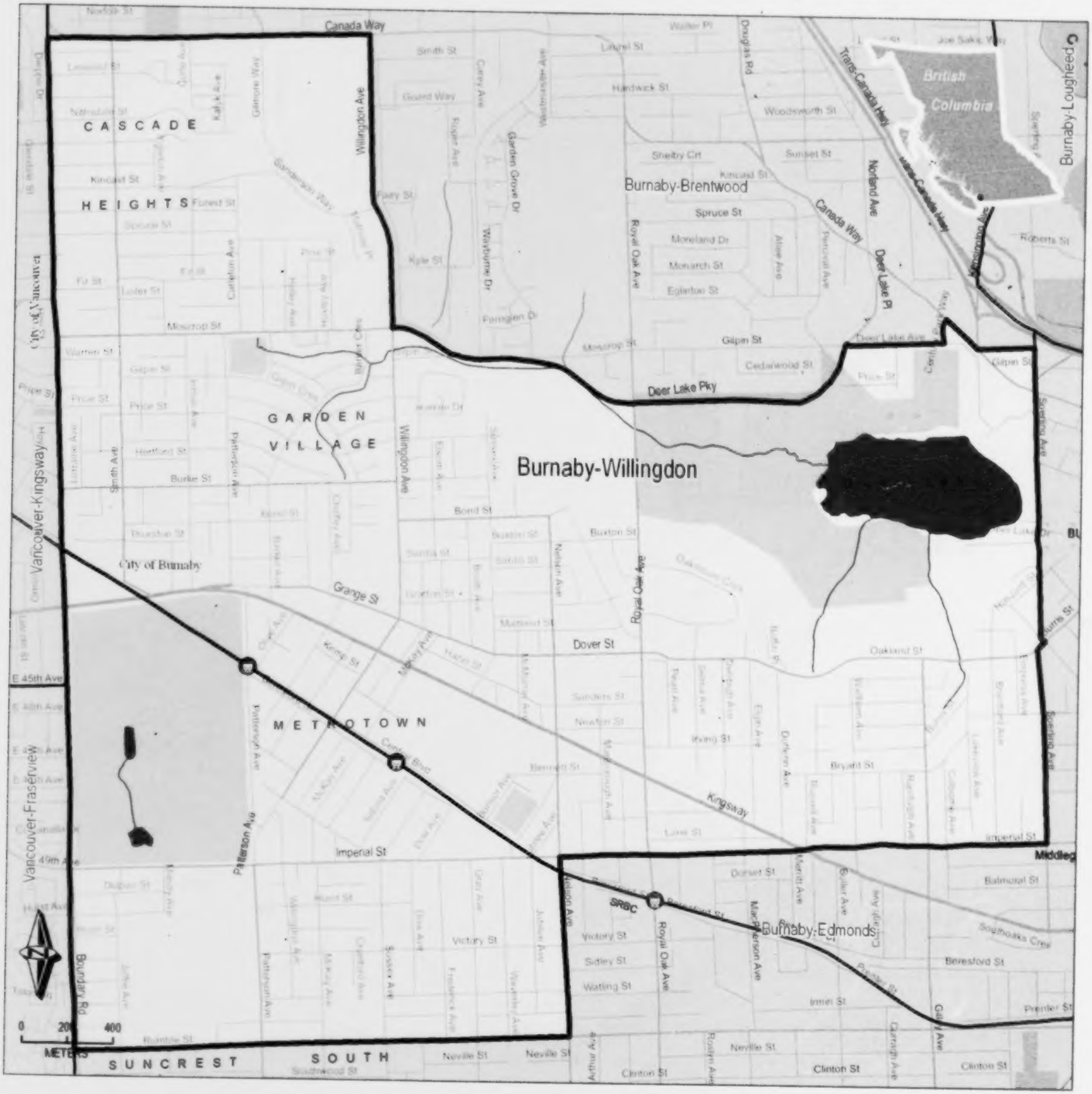
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Brentwood Electoral District


City of North Vancouver
SEYMOUR CREEK
District Municipality of North Vancouver
North Vancouver-Seymour
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
British Columbia
BURRARD INLET
SECOND NARROWS
Second Narrows Bridge
McGill St
Bridgeway
N Boundary Rd
Boundary Rd
Eton St
Oxford St
BURNABY HEIGHTS
Albert St
Pender St
Willingdon Ave
Penzance Dr
CAPITOL HILL
Dundas St
Capitol Hill
Capitol Dr
Hastings St
E Hastings St
Adanac St
Barnet Hwy
Inlet Dr
Westridge
Duthie Ave
Curtis St
Sperling Ave
Kensington Ave
WILLINGDON HEIGHTS
Douglas Rd
Parker St
BRENTWOOD PARK
Delta Ave
Gilmore Ave
Springer Ave
Fell Ave
HASTINGS-SUNRISE
Vancouver-Hastings
Burnaby-Brentwood
BURNABY
City of Burnaby
Brentlawn Dr
Burnwood Dr
Burnaby-Lougheed
E 1st Ave
1st Ave
Halifax St
Holdom Ave
Cliff Ave
City of Vancouver
STILL CREEK
Lougheed Hwy
Dawson St
Henning Dr
Beta Ave
Gilmore Ave
Still Creek
Still Creek Ave
Broadway
E Broadway
Grandview Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
Douglas Rd
Norland Ave
Winston St
Gilmore Diversion
Canada Way
Phillips Ave
Smith Ave
Gilmore Way
CASCADE HEIGHTS
Rupert St
E 22nd Ave
Sprott St
Kincaid St
Sanderson Way
Spruce St
Royal Oak Ave
Vancouver-Kingsway
Wayburne Dr
Garden Grove Dr
Canada Way
Deer Lake Pl
E 29th Ave
Burnaby-Willingdon
Moscrop St
Gilpin St
Joyce St
Deer Lake Pky
Burnaby-Edmonds
GARDEN
0 250 500
METERS

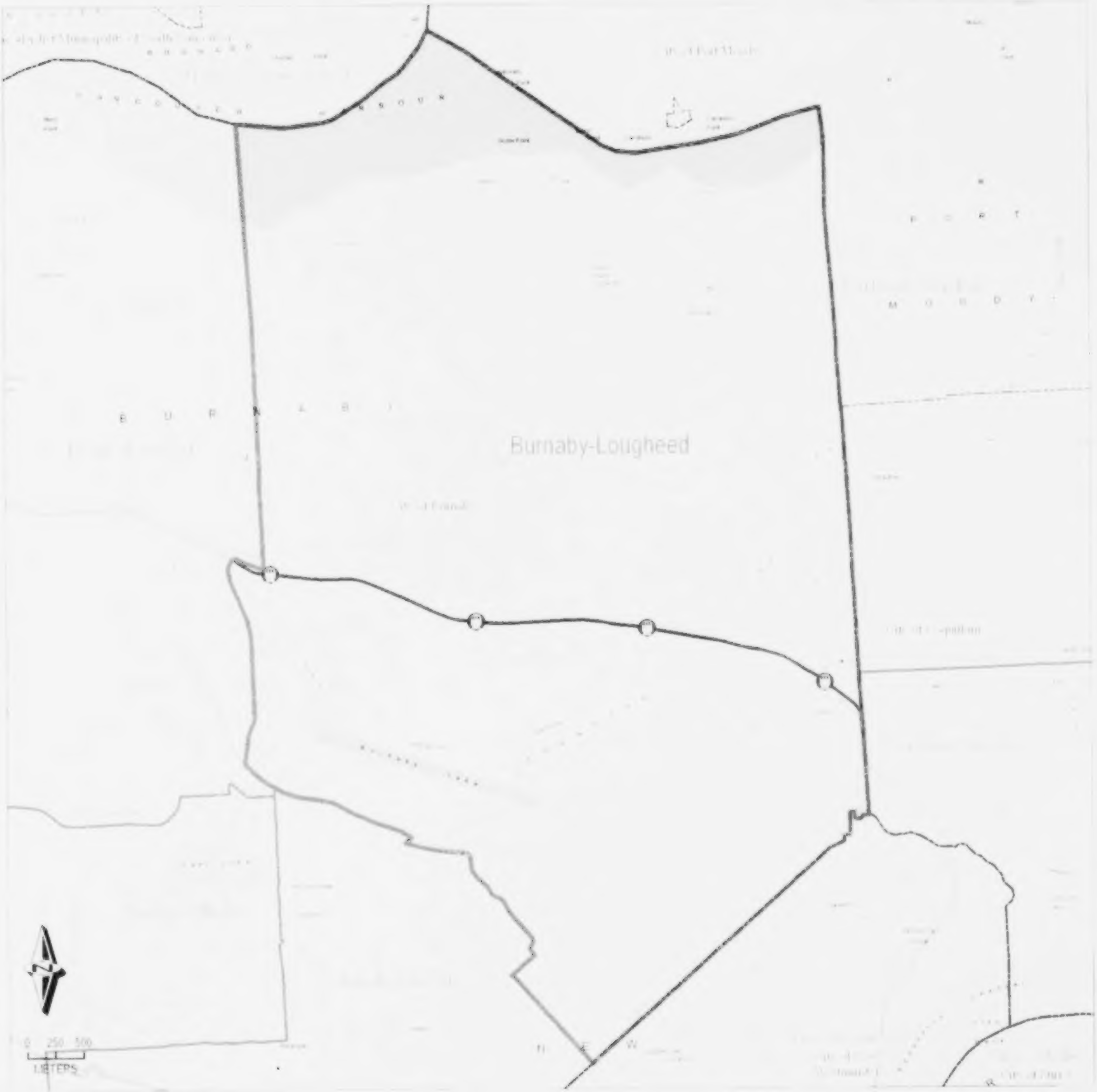
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Lougheed Electoral District


Burnaby-Lougheed
District Municipality of North Vancouver
North Vancouver-Seymour
City of Port Moody
British Columbia
Port Moody-Coquitlam
Burnaby-Brentwood
City of Burnaby
City of Coquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville
Burnaby-Willingdon
Burnaby-Edmonds
New Westminster
City of New Westminster
Surrey-Whalley
City of Surrey
Hastings St
Dundas St
Capitol Hill
Empire Dr
Parker St
Inlet Dr
Burnaby Mountain Pky
University Dr W
University Dr E
Gaglardi Way
Forest Grove Dr
Broadway
Eastlake Dr
Lougheed Hwy
Still Creek Ave
Kensington Ave
Government Rd
Trans-Canada Hwy
Canada Way
Sprott St
Spruce St
Deer Lake Pky
Royal Oak Ave
Oakland St
Bryant St
Kingsway
Reigate Rd
Newcombe St
10th Ave
E 8th Ave
8th Ave
6th Ave
McBride Blvd
14th Ave
Edmonds St
E Columbia St
Braid St
Brunette Ave
Cameron St
North Rd
Austin Ave
Rochester Ave
Alderson Ave
Foster Ave
Como Lake Ave
Blue Mountain St
College Park Way
Cecile Dr
Clarke Rd
Brunette River
Holmes St
Richmond St
Phillips Ave
Sperling Ave
Duthie Ave
Halifax St
Curtis St
Delta Ave
Willingdon Ave
Douglas Rd
Gilmore Ave
0 250 500
METERS
B U R N A B Y
P O R T M O O D Y
N E W

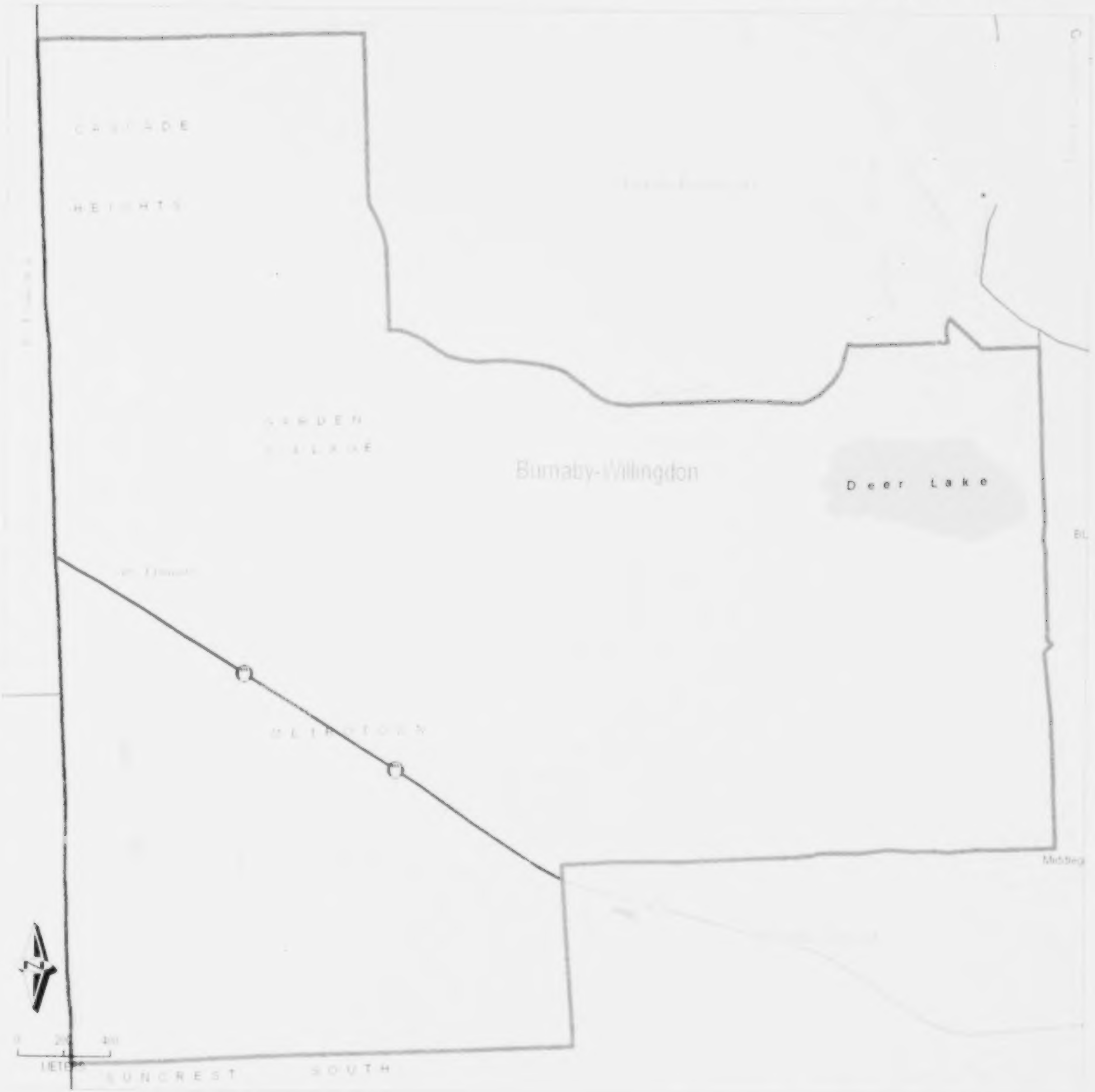
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Willingdon Electoral District


Burnaby-Willingdon
Burnaby-Brentwood
Burnaby-Edmonds
Burnaby-Lougheed
Vancouver-Kingsway
Vancouver-Fraserview
City of Vancouver
City of Burnaby
British Columbia
CASCADE HEIGHTS
GARDEN VILLAGE
METROTOWN
SUNCREST
SOUTH
Canada Way
Willingdon Ave
Royal Oak Ave
Deer Lake Pky
Kingsway
Imperial St
Patterson Ave
Boundary Rd
Trans-Canada Hwy
Grange St
Dover St
Moscrop St
Gilpin St
Oakland St
Norfolk St
Neville St
Clinton St
Nelson Ave
Canada Way
Deer Lake Pl
Norland Ave
Sperling Ave
Burris St
Spruce St
Kincaid St
Hardwick St
Woodsworth St
Sunset St
Shelby Crt
Moreland Dr
Monarch St
Eglinton St
Cedarwood St
Garden Grove Dr
Wayburne Dr
Douglas Rd
Laurel St
Walker Pl
Smith St
Buxton St
Bond St
Burke St
Hartford St
Price St
Smith Ave
MacPherson Ave
Victory St
Sidley St
Watling St
Beresford St
Balmoral St
Middlegate
Southoaks Cres
Dorset St
Irmin St
Prenter St
Irving St
Bryant St
Bennett St
Newton St
Sanders St
E 45th Ave
49th Ave
Rumble St
Southwood St
SRBC
0
200
400
METERS

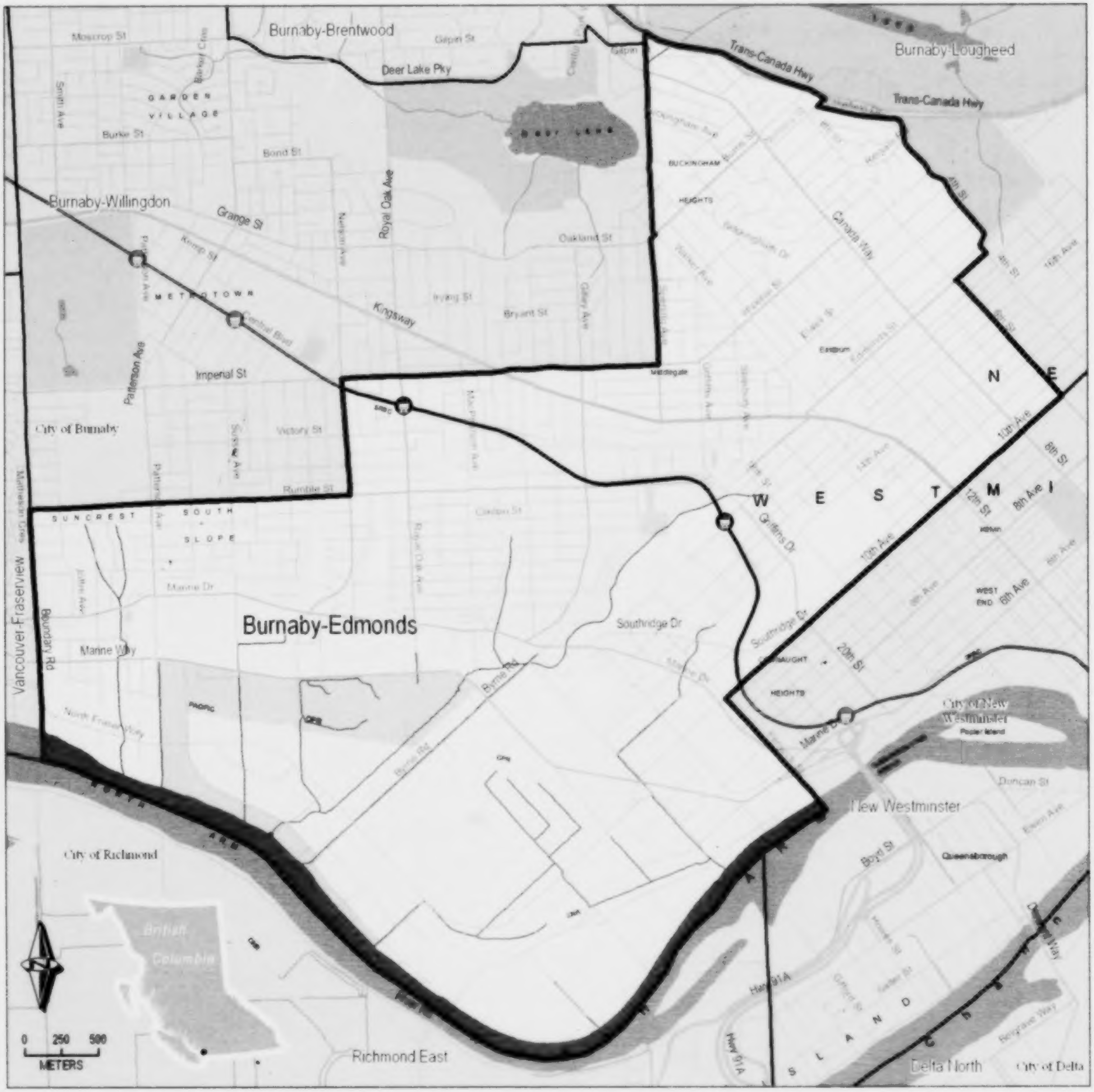
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Lougheed Electoral District

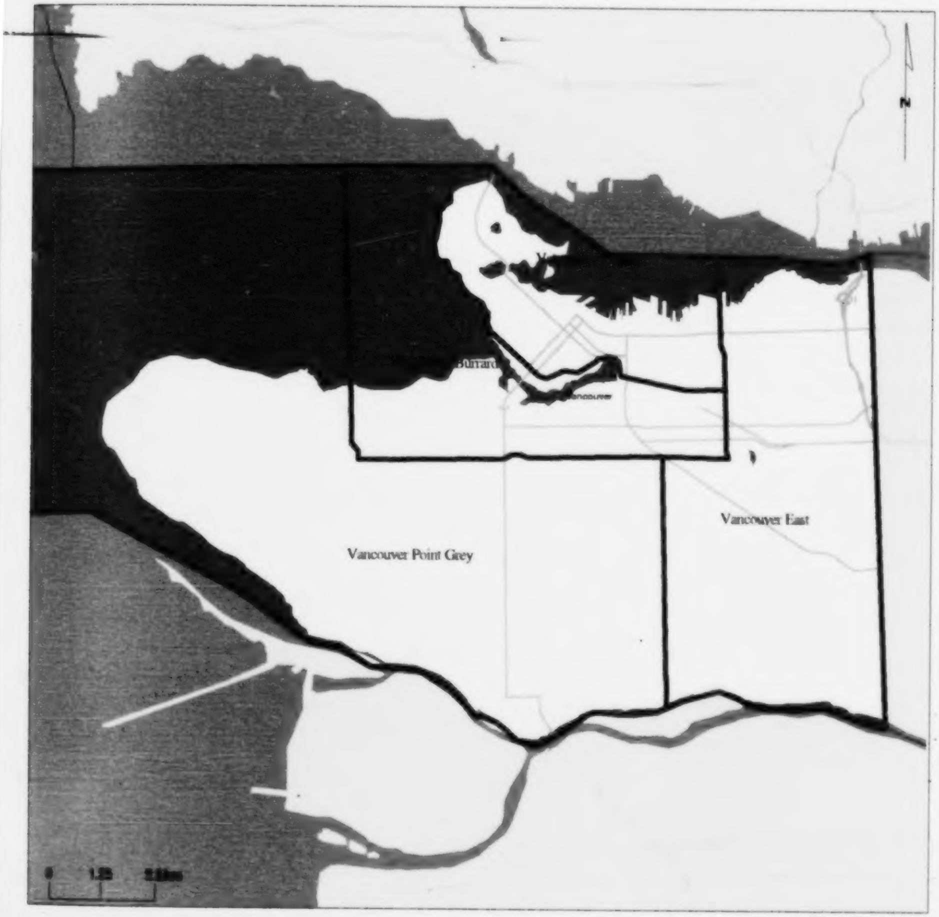

BURRARD
VANCOUVER HARBOUR
PORT MOODY
BURNABY
Burnaby-Lougheed
City of Coquitlam
NEW
0 250 500
METERS

Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Willingdon Electoral District


CASCADE
HEIGHTS
GARDEN
VILLAGE
Burnaby-Willingdon
Deer Lake
BL
METROTOWN
Middlegate
0 200 400
METERS
SUNCREST
SOUTH

Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Edmonds Electoral District


Burnaby-Brentwood
Moscrop St
Gilpin St
Deer Lake Pky
GARDEN VILLAGE
Smith Ave
Burke St
Bond St
Deer Lake
Burnaby-Lougheed
Trans-Canada Hwy
BUCKINGHAM HEIGHTS
Burnaby-Willingdon
Grange St
Royal Oak Ave
Oakland St
Kemp St
METROTOWN
Central Blvd
Kingsway
Irving St
Bryant St
Canada Way
Edmonds St
Patterson Ave
Imperial St
Middlegate
City of Burnaby
Victory St
Rumble St
N
E
W
E
S
T
M
I
10th Ave
8th St
12th St
8th Ave
6th Ave
WEST END
SUNCREST
SOUTH SLOPE
Marine Dr
Griffiths Dr
Southridge Dr
Vancouver-Fraserview
Boundary Rd
Marine Way
Burnaby-Edmonds
CONNAUGHT HEIGHTS
20th St
North Fraser Way
Byrne Rd
City of New Westminster
Poplar Island
Duncan St
New Westminster
Queensborough
Boyd St
City of Richmond
British Columbia
Hwy 91A
Derwent Way
Belgrave Way
0 250 500
METERS
Richmond East
Delta North
City of Delta
S L A N D


N
Burrard
Vancouver
Vancouver East
Vancouver Point Grey
0
1.25
2.5km

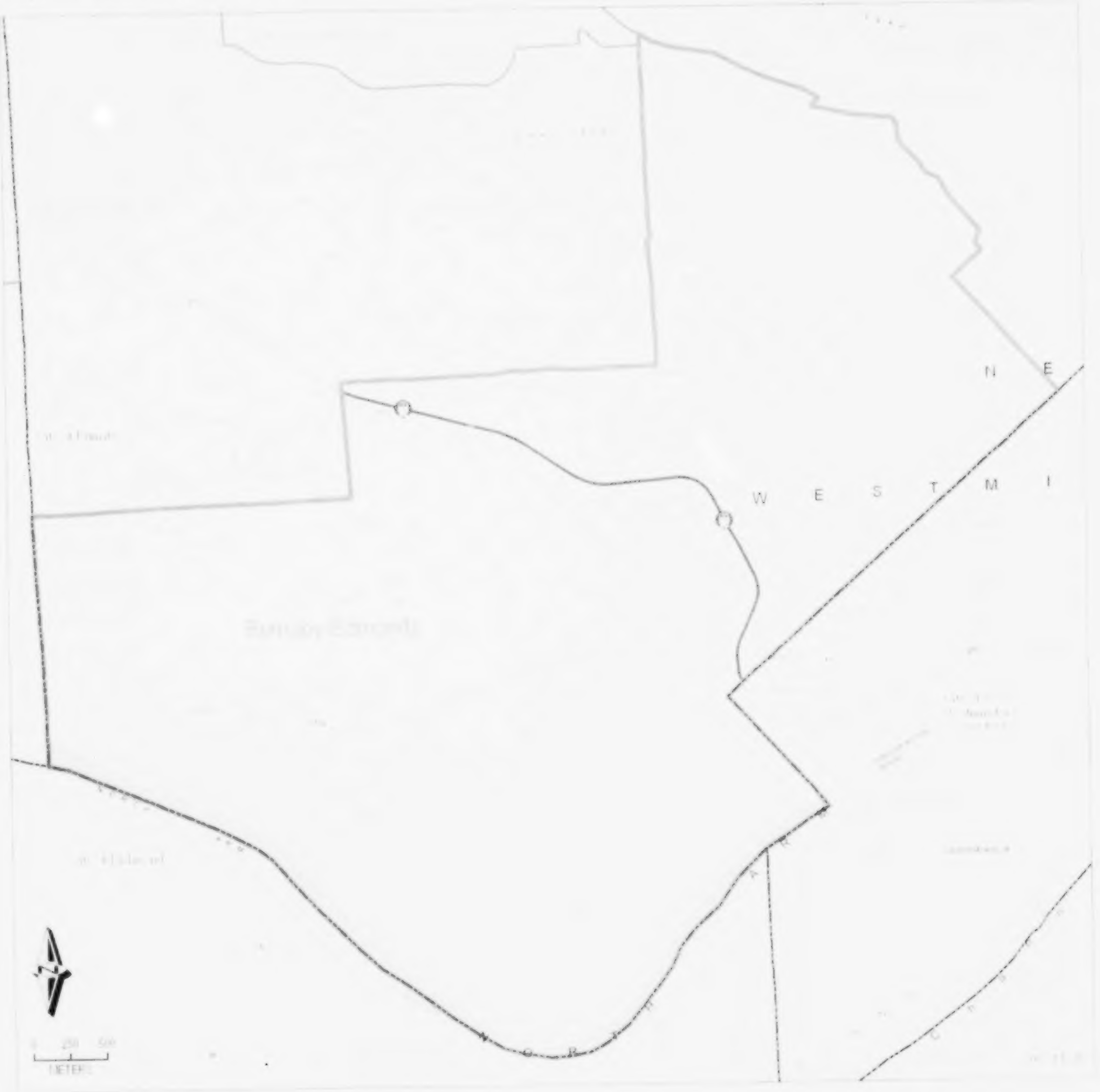
Vancouver, Map 1

L. Vancouver

1. Evolution of Vancouver's electoral districts

Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission, there were four electoral districts in the City of Vancouver, electing nine MLAs (see Vancouver, Map 1), as follows (moving from east to west) – Vancouver East (2), Vancouver Centre (2), Vancouver Burrard (2) and Vancouver Point Grey (3).

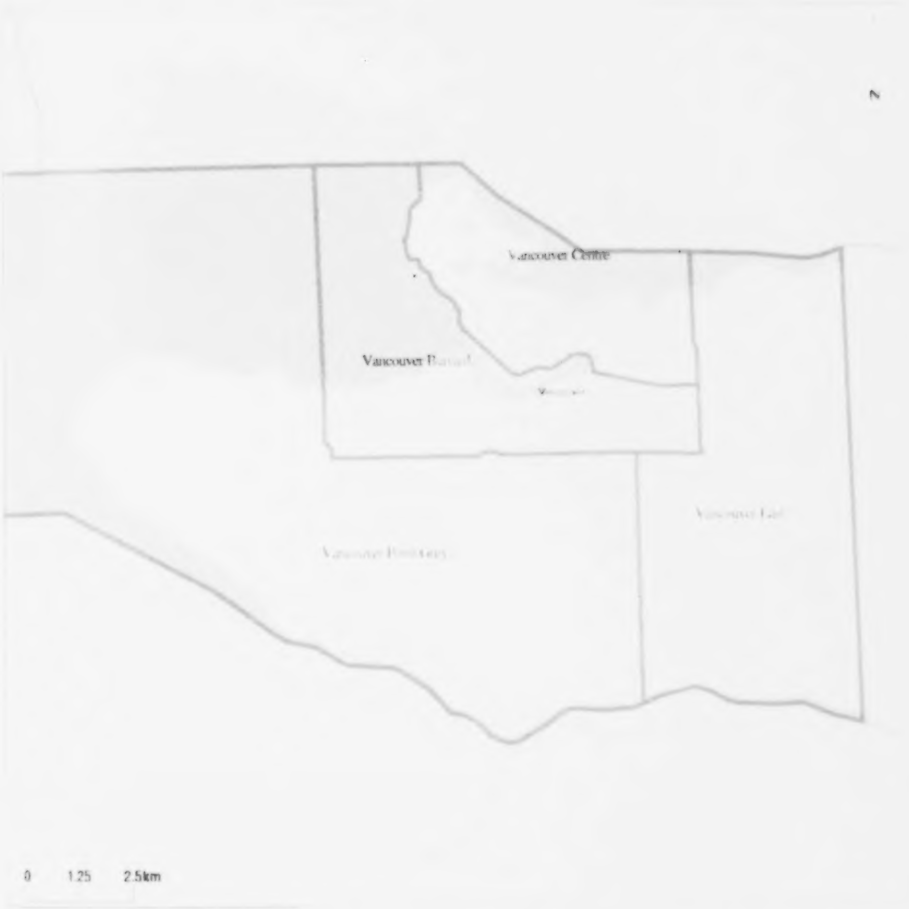
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Edmonds Electoral District


N E
W E S T M I
Burnaby-Edmonds
A R
N O R T H
0 250 500
METERS

1. Vancouver

(a) [illegible] Vancouver's [illegible] Districts

Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission, there were four electoral districts in the City of Vancouver, electing nine MLAs (see Vancouver, Map 1), as follows (moving from east to west) – Vancouver East (2), Vancouver Centre (2), Vancouver Burrard (2) and Vancouver Point Grey (3).

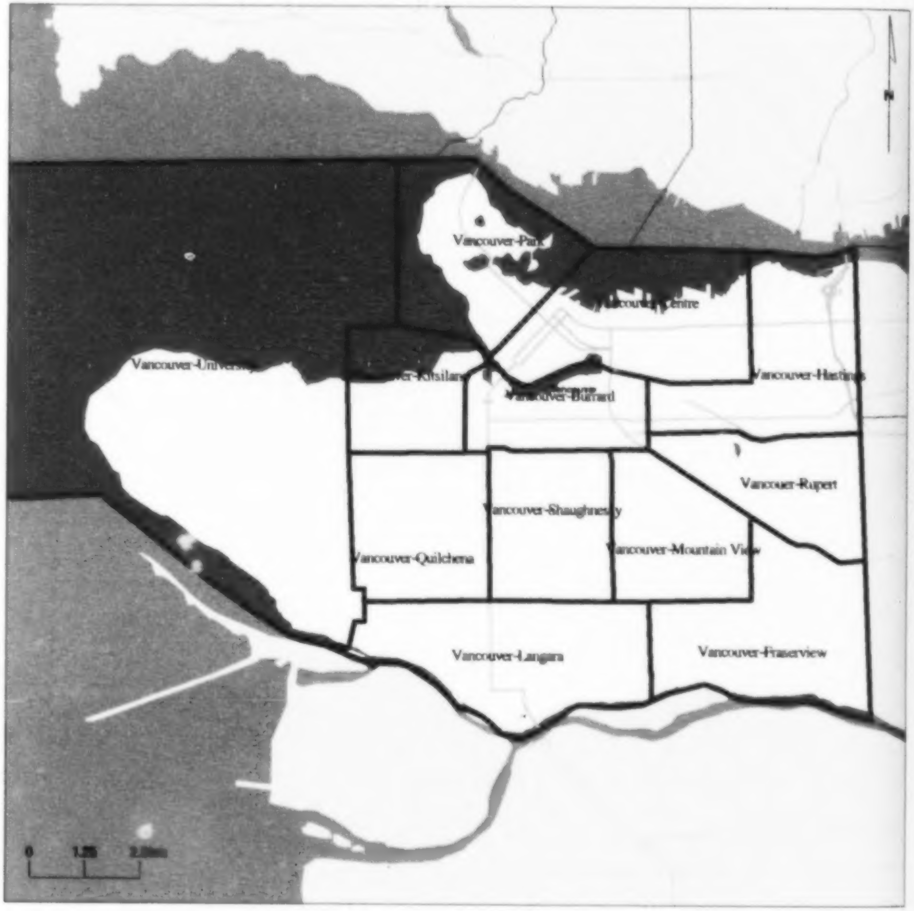

N
Vancouver Centre
Vancouver Burrard
Vancouver East
Vancouver Point Grey
0
1.25
2.5km

Vancouver, Map 1

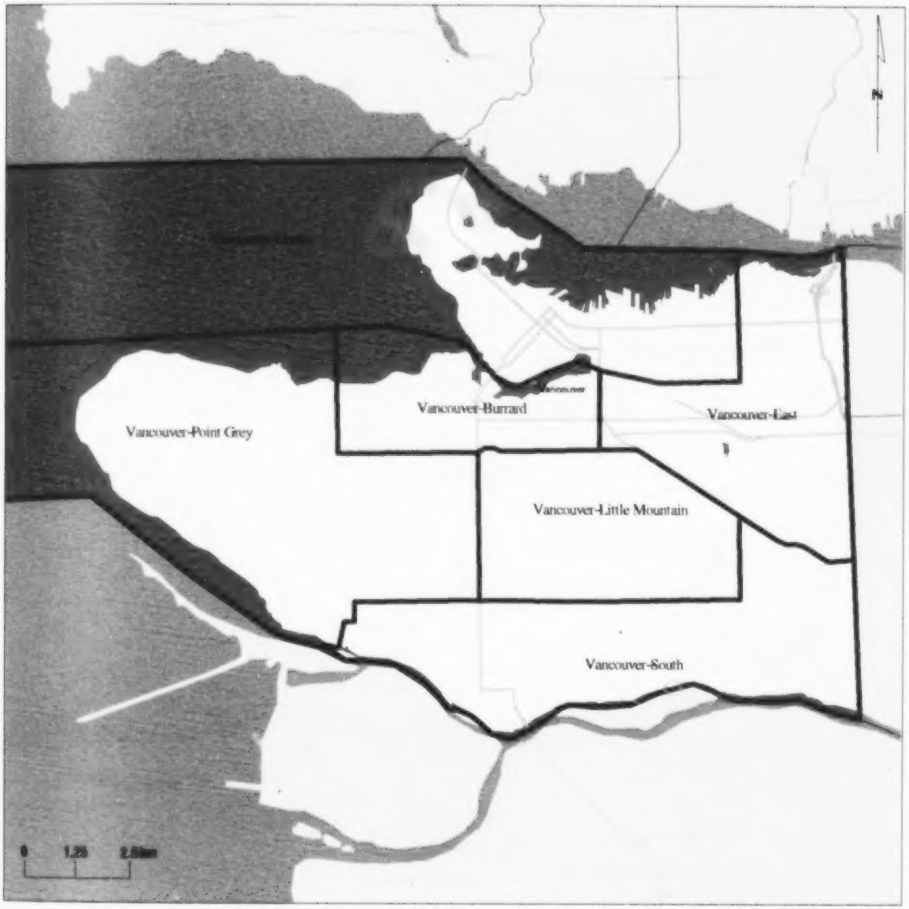
a. The Angus Commission (1966)

The commission recommended the abolition of all multi-member electoral districts (which would give Vancouver nine single-member districts), and an increase of three ridings, for a total of 12 electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 2). Moving from east to west, they would be known as:

- Vancouver-Hastings
- Vancouver-Rupert
- Vancouver-Fraserview
- Vancouver–Mountain View
- Vancouver-Centre
- Vancouver-Burrard
- Vancouver-Shaughnessy
- Vancouver-Langara
- Vancouver-Park
- Vancouver-Kitsilano
- Vancouver-Quilchena
- Vancouver-University.


N
Vancouver-Park
Vancouver-Centre
Vancouver-University
Kitsilano
Vancouver-Burrard
Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouer-Rupert
Vancouver-Shaughnessy
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Mountain View
Vancouver-Langara
Vancouver-Fraserview
0
1.25
2.5km

Vancouver, Map 2


Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Burrard
Vancouver
Vancouver-East
Vancouver-Little Mountain
Vancouver-South
N
0 1.25 2.5km

Vancouver, Map 3

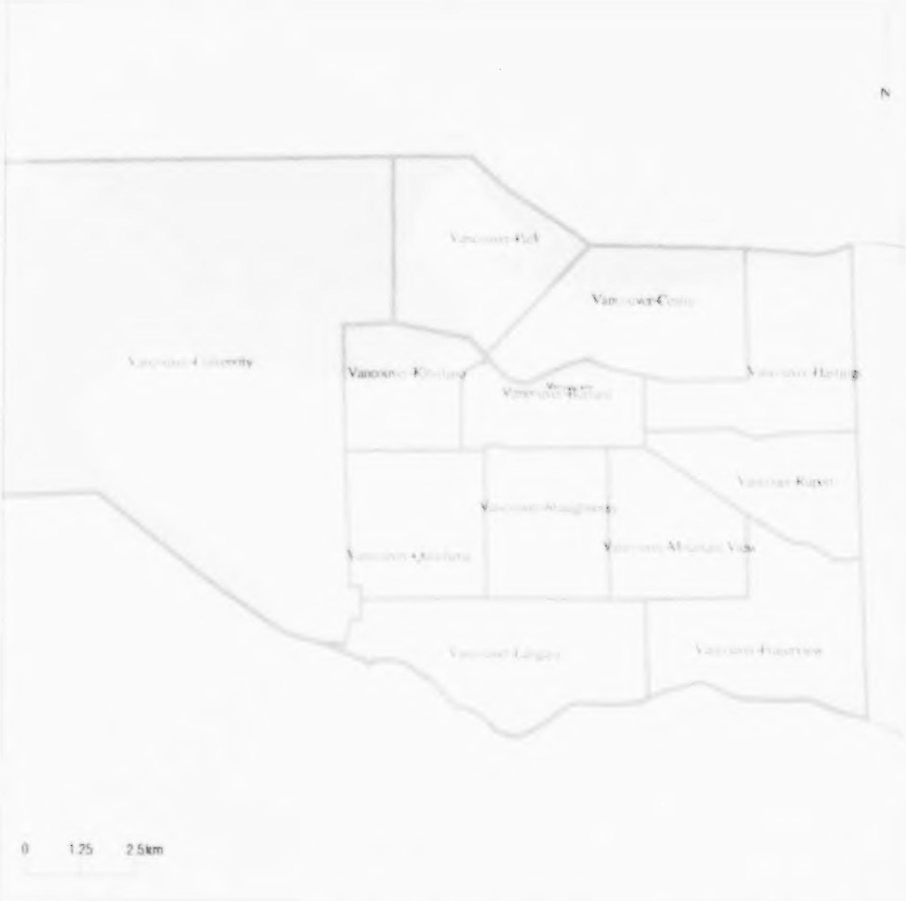
The Legislative Assembly adopted the commission's recommendation that Vancouver have 12 MLAs, but did not adopt the Angus Commission's proposed new single-member districts. Rather, it approved six two-member electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 3), to be called:

- Vancouver East (2)
- Vancouver South (2)
- Vancouver Centre (2)
- Vancouver–Little Mountain (2)
- Vancouver-Burrard (2)
- Vancouver–Point Grey (2).

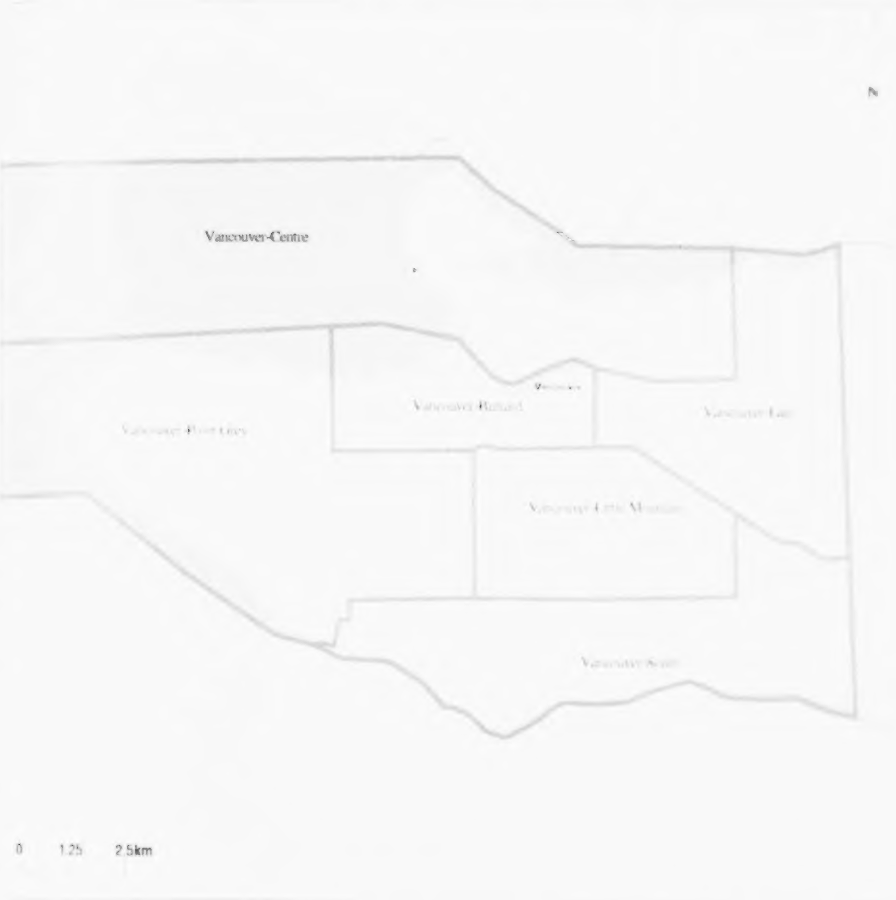
[illegible]

The commission recommended the abolition of all multi-member electoral districts (which would give Vancouver nine single-member districts), and an increase of three ridings, for a total of 12 electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 2). Moving from east to west, they would be known as:

- Vancouver-Hastings
- Vancouver-Rupert
- Vancouver-Fraserview
- Vancouver–Mountain View
- Vancouver-Centre
- Vancouver-Burrard
- Vancouver-Shaughnessy
- Vancouver-Langara
- Vancouver-Park
- Vancouver-Kitsilano
- Vancouver-Quilchena
- Vancouver-University


N
Vancouver-Park
Vancouver-Centre
Vancouver-University
Vancouver-Kitsilano
Vancouver-Burrard
Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouver-Rupert
Vancouver-Shaughnessy
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Mountain View
Vancouver-Langara
Vancouver-Fraserview
0
1.25
2.5km

Vancouver: Map 2


N
Vancouver-Centre
Vancouver-Burrard
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-East
Vancouver-Little Mountain
Vancouver-South
0
1.25
2.5km

The Legislative Assembly adopted the commission's recommendation that Vancouver have 12 MLAs, but did not adopt the Angus Commission's proposed new single-member districts. Rather, it approved six two-member electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 3), to be called:

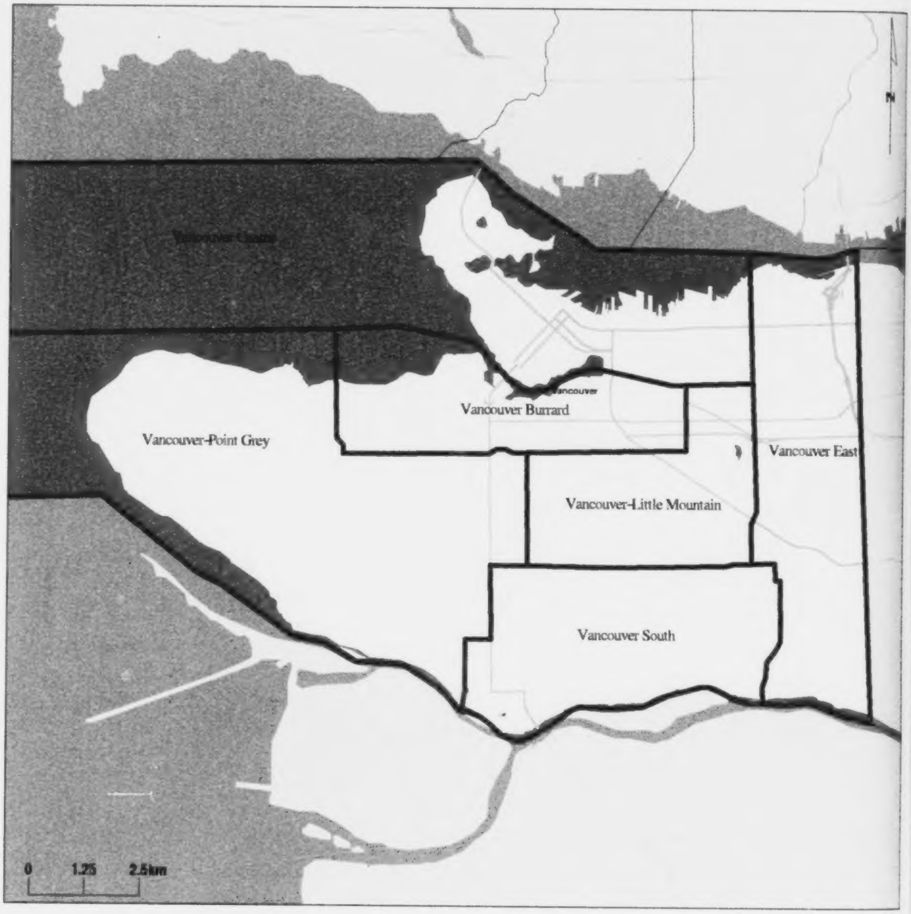
- Vancouver East (2)
- Vancouver South (2)
- Vancouver Centre (2)
- Vancouver–Little Mountain (2)
- Vancouver-Burrard (2)
- Vancouver–Point Grey (2).

Vancouver, Map 3

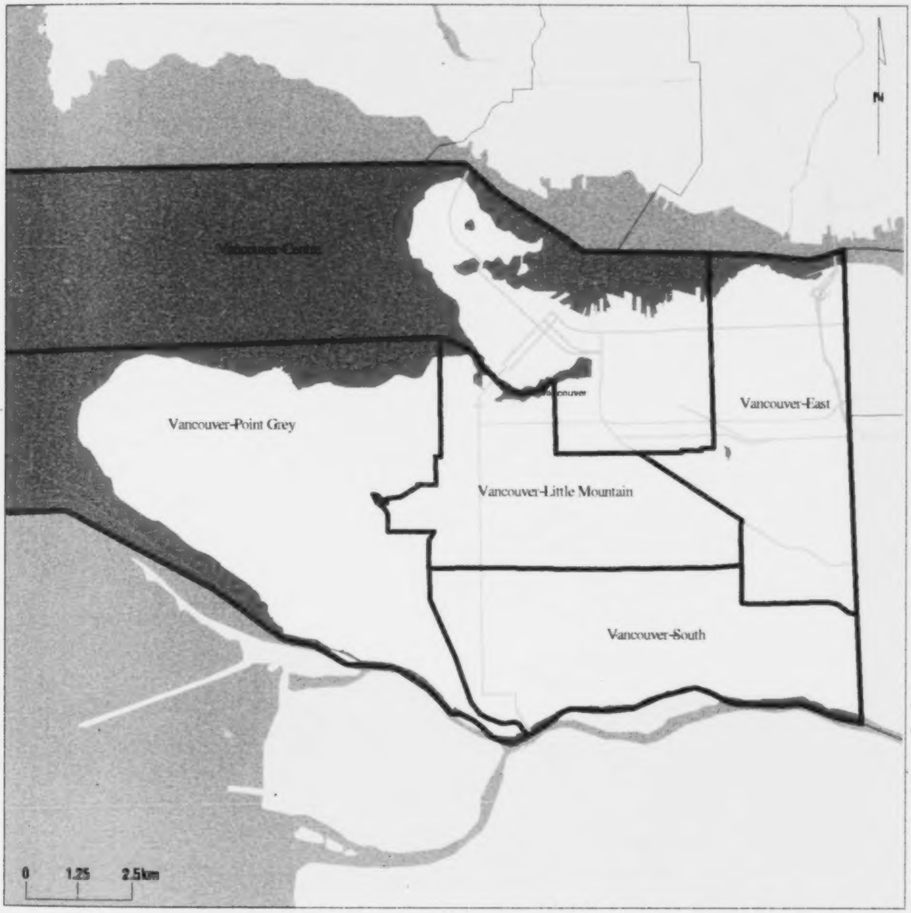
b. The Norris Commission (1975)

The Norris Commission recommended that the boundaries of the Vancouver ridings be adjusted to take into account, as far as possible, local communities of interest, as recognized by Vancouver City and adopted in the establishment of Community Resource Boards. It proposed to retain the current six two-member electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 4), but made several boundary changes.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.


Vancouver Centre
Vancouver
Vancouver Burrard
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver East
Vancouver-Little Mountain
Vancouver South
N
0
1.25
2.5km

Vancouver, Map 4



Vancouver, Map 5

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt recommended that Vancouver retain dual-member ridings, but that the number of electoral districts be reduced from six to five, by abolishing Vancouver–Burrard and by apportioning that area among the three adjoining districts (see Vancouver, Map 5). With the exception of some alterations, the remaining boundaries should remain the same. The divisions were based on City of Vancouver and Point Grey Census Tract figures, and an effort to preserve community identities. He recommended the following districts: Vancouver East (2), Vancouver-Centre (2), Vancouver–Little Mountain (2), Vancouver South (2) and Vancouver–Point Grey (2).

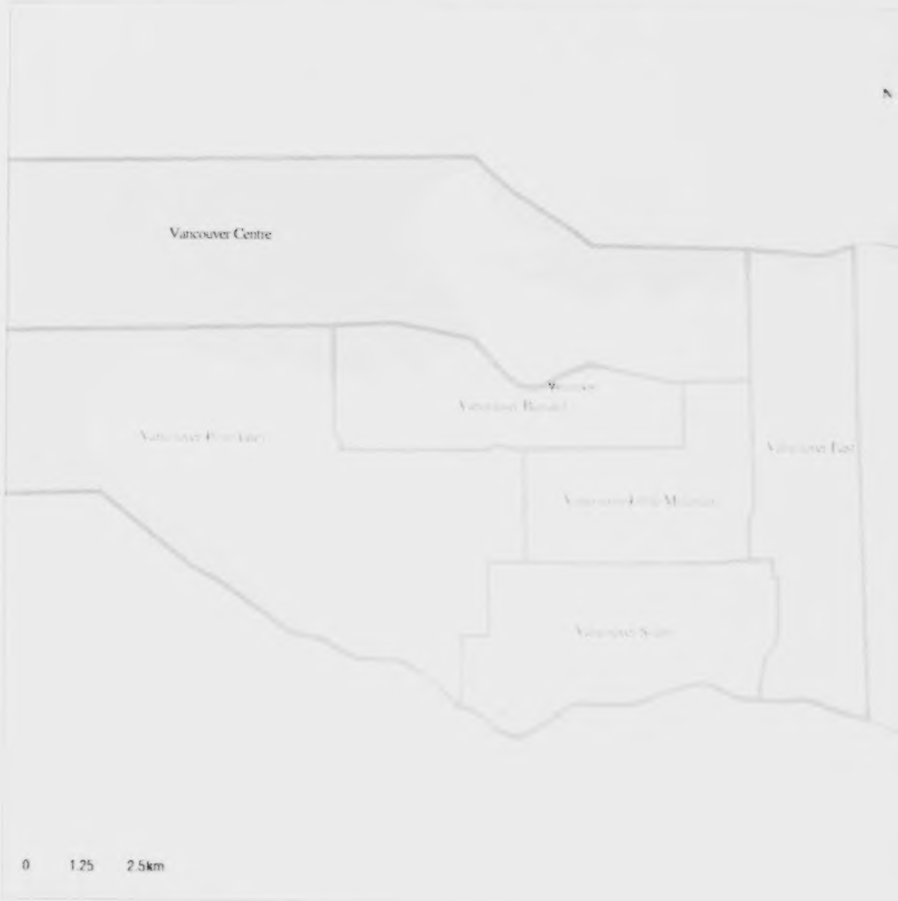
The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
An earlier commission had used Arbutus Street as the dividing line between its proposed Vancouver–Point Grey and Vancouver–Little Mountain electoral districts, but had extended its proposed Vancouver–Little Mountain electoral district west of Arbutus in one area (bounded by 33rd Avenue, Macdonald Street and 23rd Avenue). This oddly-shaped protuberance had become known colloquially as "Gracie's finger," amid accusations of gerrymandering. Mr. Warren characterized

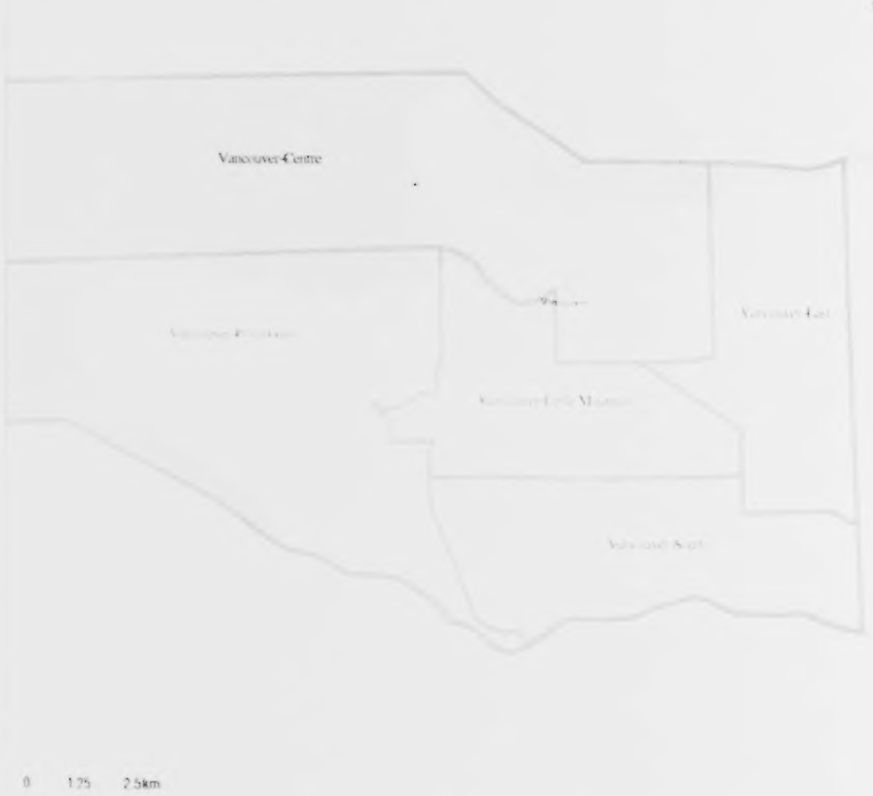
The Norris Commission

The Norris Commission recommended that the boundaries of the Vancouver ridings be adjusted to take into account, as far as possible, local communities of interest, as recognized by Vancouver City and adopted in the establishment of Community Resource Boards. It proposed to retain the current six two-member electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 4), but made several boundary changes.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.


N
Vancouver Centre
Vancouver Point Grey
Vancouver Burrard
Vancouver Little Mountain
Vancouver South
Vancouver East
0
1.25
2.5km

Vancouver, Map 4



Vancouver, Map 5

The Eckardt Commission (1978)

Judge Eckardt recommended that Vancouver retain dual-member ridings, but that the number of electoral districts be reduced from six to five, by abolishing Vancouver–Burrard and by apportioning that area among the three adjoining districts (see Vancouver, Map 5). With the exception of some alterations, the remaining boundaries should remain the same. The divisions were based on City of Vancouver and Point Grey Census Tract figures, and an effort to preserve community identities. He recommended the following districts: Vancouver East (2), Vancouver Centre (2), Vancouver–Little Mountain (2), Vancouver South (2) and Vancouver–Point Grey (2).

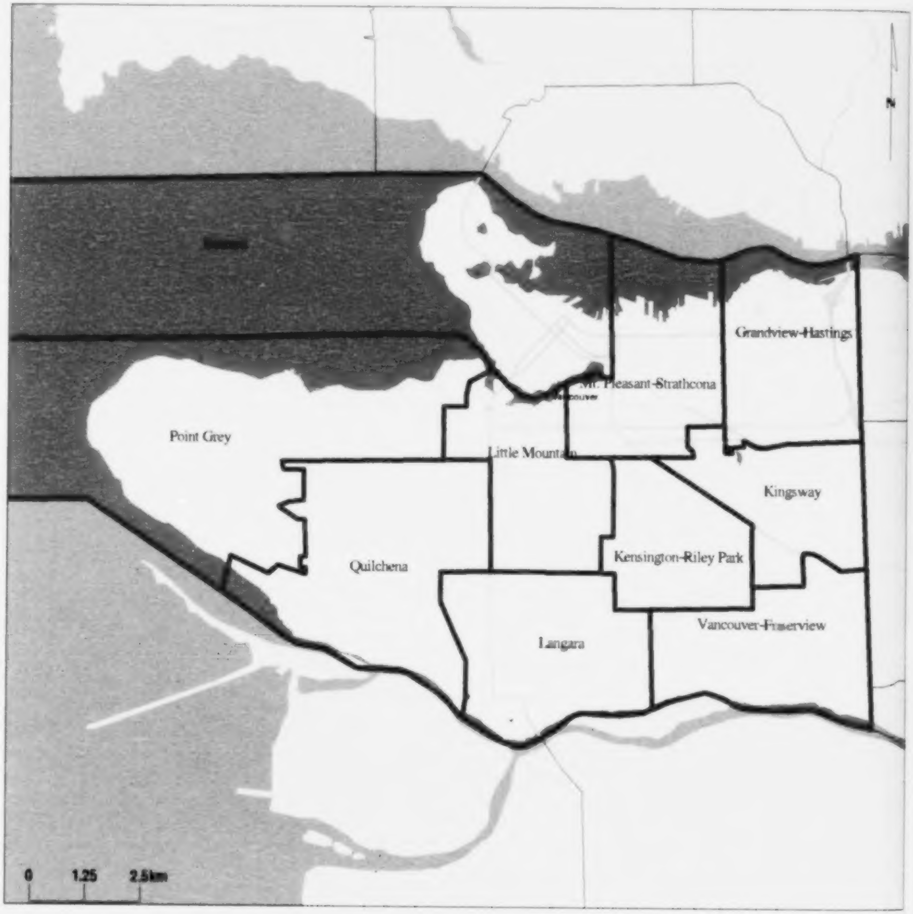
The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Eckardt's recommendations.

The Warren Commission (1982)

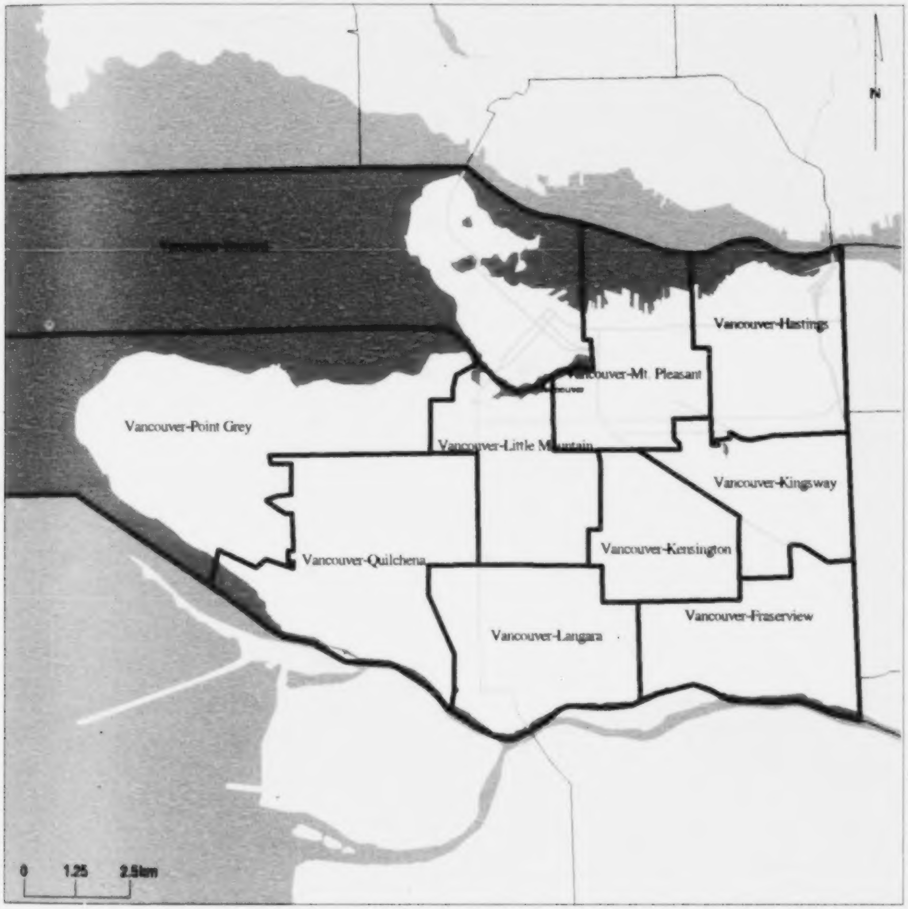
An earlier commission had used Arbutus Street as the dividing line between its proposed Vancouver–Point Grey and Vancouver–Little Mountain electoral districts, but had extended its proposed Vancouver–Little Mountain electoral district west of Arbutus in one area (bounded by 33rd Avenue, Macdonald Street and 23rd Avenue). This oddly-shaped protuberance had become known colloquially as "Gracie's finger," amid accusations of gerrymandering. Mr. Warren characterized such allegations as "inconclusive and unsubstantiated charges." However, he recommended that the disputed area be returned to Vancouver–Point Grey for historical reasons, to equalize the population between the two electoral districts, and to end the partisan attacks. The Legislative Assembly did not adopt this recommendation.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected these electoral districts.

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
Judge Fisher's terms of reference required that he eliminate dual-member ridings. He concluded in his interim report that Vancouver was entitled to 10 electoral districts in a Legislative Assembly of 75 MLAs, but was unwilling simply to divide each dual-member riding into two single-member districts, because it would have resulted in unacceptable population imbalances among districts. His recommended electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 6) that took "neighbourhood boundaries and major thoroughfares into account, with adjustments wherever necessary in order to achieve a population balance."


N
Grandview-Hastings
Mt. Pleasant-Strathcona
Vancouver
Point Grey
Little Mountain
Kingsway
Quilchena
Kensington-Riley Park
Vancouver-Fraserview
Langara
0
1.25
2.5km

Vancouver, Map 6


N
Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouver-Mt. Pleasant
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Little Mountain
Vancouver-Kingsway
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Fraserview
Vancouver-Langara
0 1.25 2.5km

Vancouver, Map 7

In his final report, Judge Fisher considered the mayor's suggestion of adopting the city's scheme for ward boundaries, but rejected the idea because it would sharply increase the population discrepancies among neighbouring constituencies. He did recommend a modest adjustment to the boundaries of his proposed Burrard and Grandview-Hastings electoral districts, in order to maintain the integrity of the city's historic Chinese commercial district. He proposed the following names (moving from east to west):

- Vancouver-Hastings,
- Vancouver-Kingsway,
- Vancouver-Fraserview,
- Vancouver–Mount Pleasant,
- Vancouver-Kensington,
- Vancouver-Burrard,
- Vancouver–Little Mountain,
- Vancouver-Langara,
- Vancouver–Point Grey, and
- Vancouver-Quilchena.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations (Vancouver, Map 7).

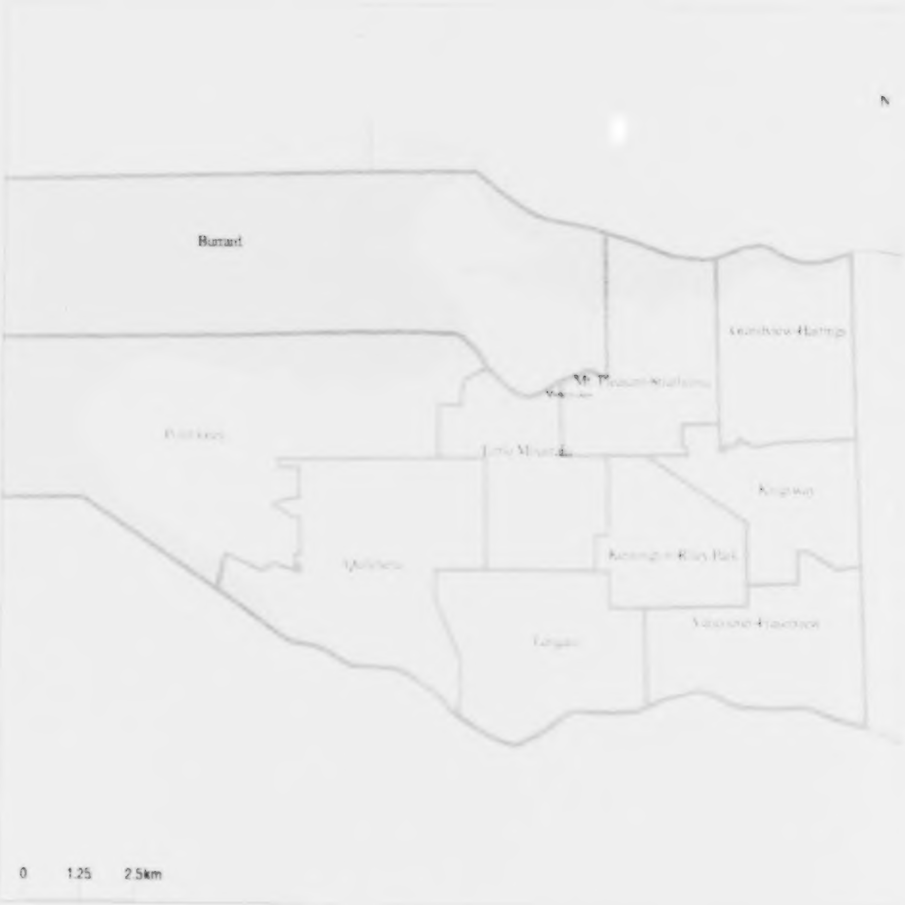
such allegations as "inconclusive and unsubstantiated charges." However, he recommended that the disputed area be returned to Vancouver-Point Grey for historical reasons, to equalize the population between the two electoral districts, and to end the partisan attacks. The Legislative Assembly did not adopt this recommendation.

[illegible] The McAdam Commission [illegible]

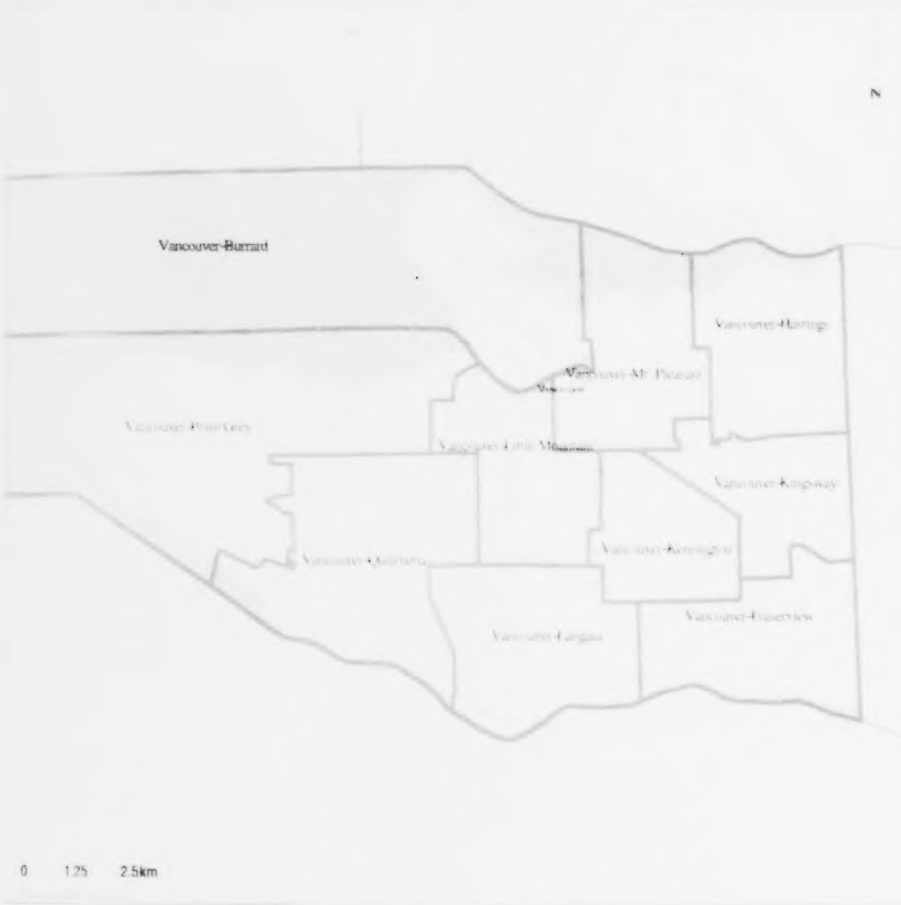
None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected these electoral districts.

[illegible] The Fisher Commission [illegible]

Judge Fisher's terms of reference required that he eliminate dual-member ridings. He concluded in his interim report that Vancouver was entitled to 10 electoral districts in a Legislative Assembly of 75 MLAs, but was unwilling simply to divide each dual-member riding into two single-member districts, because it would have resulted in unacceptable population imbalances among districts. His recommended electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 6) that took "neighbourhood boundaries and major thoroughfares into account, with adjustments wherever necessary in order to achieve a population balance."


N
Burrard
Point Grey
Grandview-Hastings
Mt. Pleasant-Strathcona
Little Mountain
Kingsway
Quilchena
Kensington-Riley Park
Vancouver-Fraserview
Langara
0
1.25
2.5km

Vancouver, Map 6


N
Vancouver-Burrard
Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouver-Mt. Pleasant
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Little Mountain
Vancouver-Kingsway
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Fraserview
Vancouver-Langara
0 1.25 2.5km

Vancouver, Map 7

In his final report, Judge Fisher considered the mayor's suggestion of adopting the city's scheme for ward boundaries, but rejected the idea because it would sharply increase the population discrepancies among neighbouring constituencies. He did recommend a modest adjustment to the boundaries of his proposed Burrard and Grandview Hastings electoral districts, in order to maintain the integrity of the city's historic Chinese commercial district. He proposed the following names (moving from east to west):

- Vancouver-Hastings,
- Vancouver-Kingsway,
- Vancouver-Fraserview,
- Vancouver–Mount Pleasant,
- Vancouver-Kensington,
- Vancouver-Burrard,
- Vancouver–Little Mountain,
- Vancouver-Langara,
- Vancouver–Point Grey, and
- Vancouver-Quilchena.

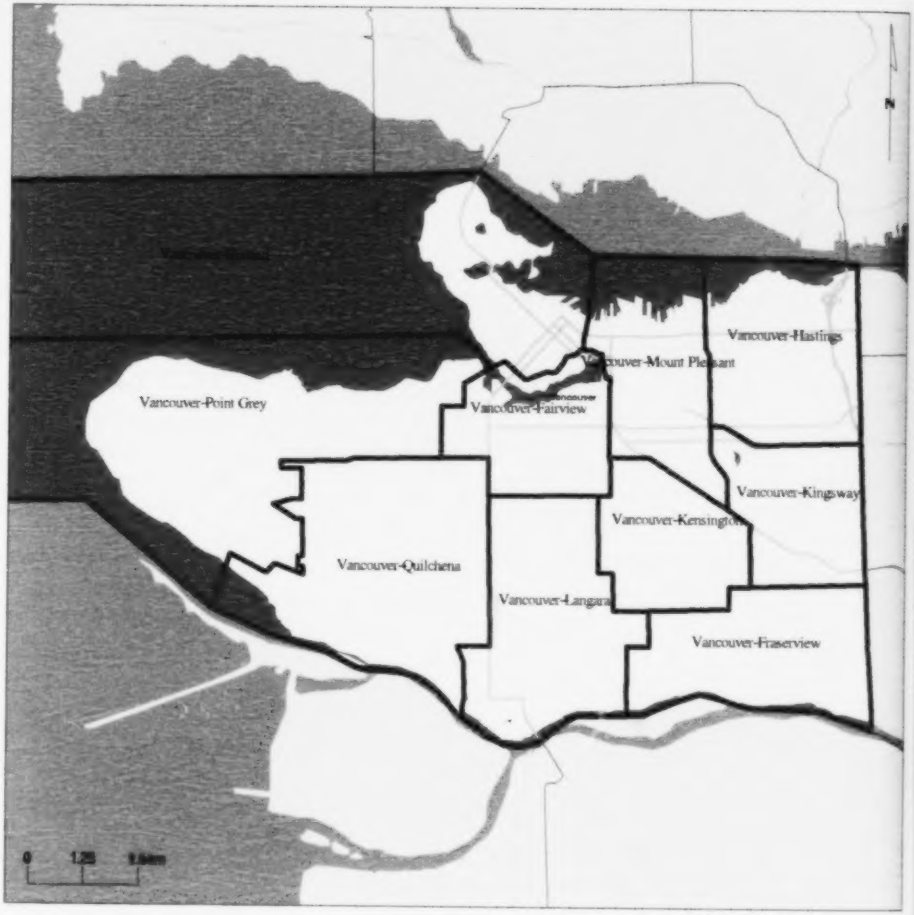
The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations (Vancouver, Map 7).

g. The Wood Commission (1999)

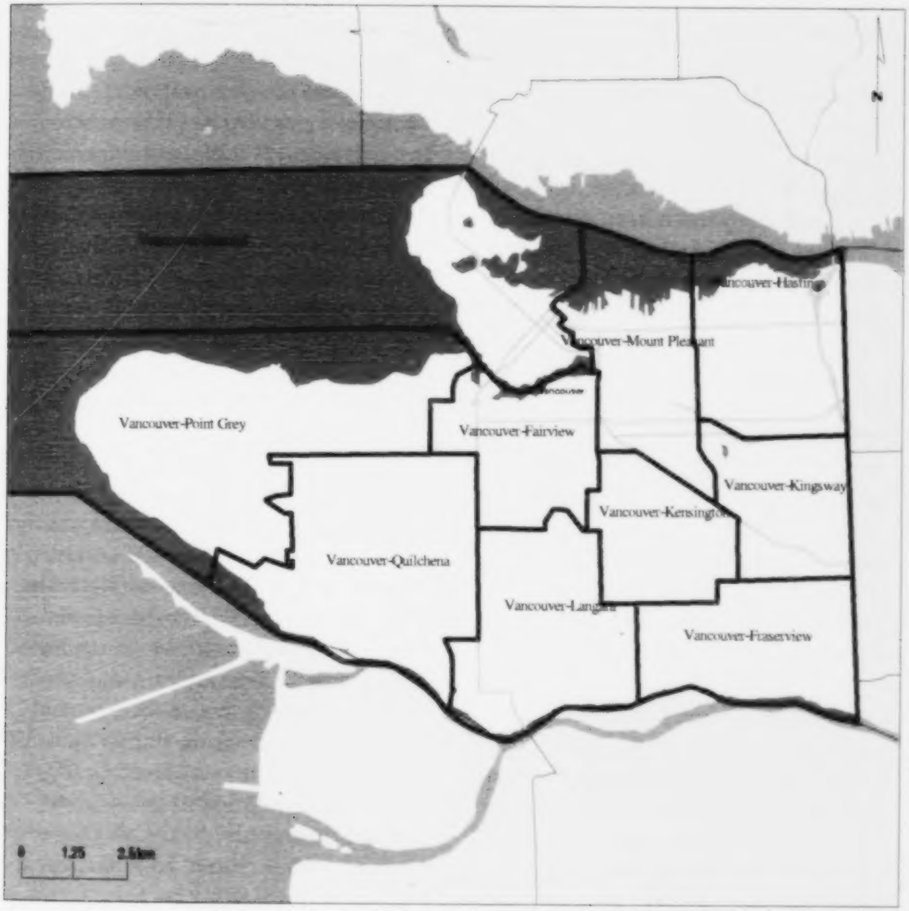
In its interim report, the Wood Commission recommended that Vancouver continue to have 10 electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 8). Because of significant population growth in Vancouver-Burrard due to development of Yaletown and the Expo 86 site, the commission recommended that the area between False Creek and Pacific and Expo Boulevards be joined with areas south of False Creek, with that district's name being changed from Vancouver–Little Mountain to Vancouver-Fairview. It made numerous other boundary changes, in order to achieve relative voter parity among the electoral districts.

In its final report (see Vancouver, Map 9), the commission was persuaded that it would be wrong to disrupt the strong social, cultural and commercial ties that presently bound the north shore of False Creek to the downtown neighbourhood. It restored the southeastern boundary of Vancouver-Burrard to the False Creek waterway, adding:

> However, it is important to note that if our concerns about future population growth in the Yaletown and former Expo 86 grounds are borne out over the next decade, it may very well be impossible to respect the anticipated downtown orientation of this emerging neighbourhood at the next redistribution.


N
Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver-Kingsway
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Langara
Vancouver-Fraserview
0
1.25

Vancouver, Map 8


Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver-Kingsway
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Langara
Vancouver-Fraserview
N
0 1.25 2.5km

Vancouver, Map 9

It also moved the eastern boundary of Vancouver–Burrard further west, so that all of the Downtown Eastside was within one electoral district (Vancouver–Mount Pleasant). The commission heard objections to its decision to move the boundary between Vancouver–Mount Pleasant and Vancouver-Hastings further west, from Victoria Drive to Commercial Drive, on the basis that it now divided "an important social, cultural and light commercial centre with a unique and distinctive character." However, the commission was unwilling to reverse this decision because of the need to balance population among Vancouver districts, and because any division between these two districts would inevitably divide the larger Grandview-Woodland neighbourhood.

The commission made several other boundary adjustments in order to balance population among districts. It noted that, while the City of Vancouver officially recognized 23 neighbourhoods, it was not always possible to accommodate that many neighbourhoods within 10 electoral districts.

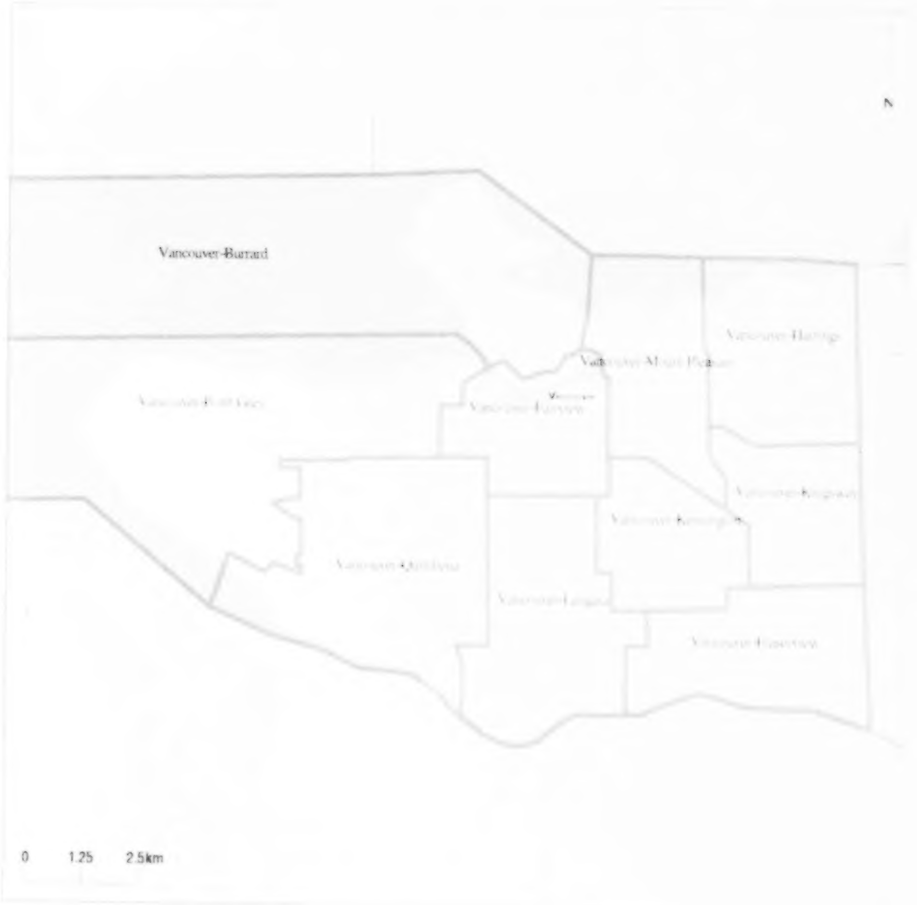
The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

The Wood Commission (1998)

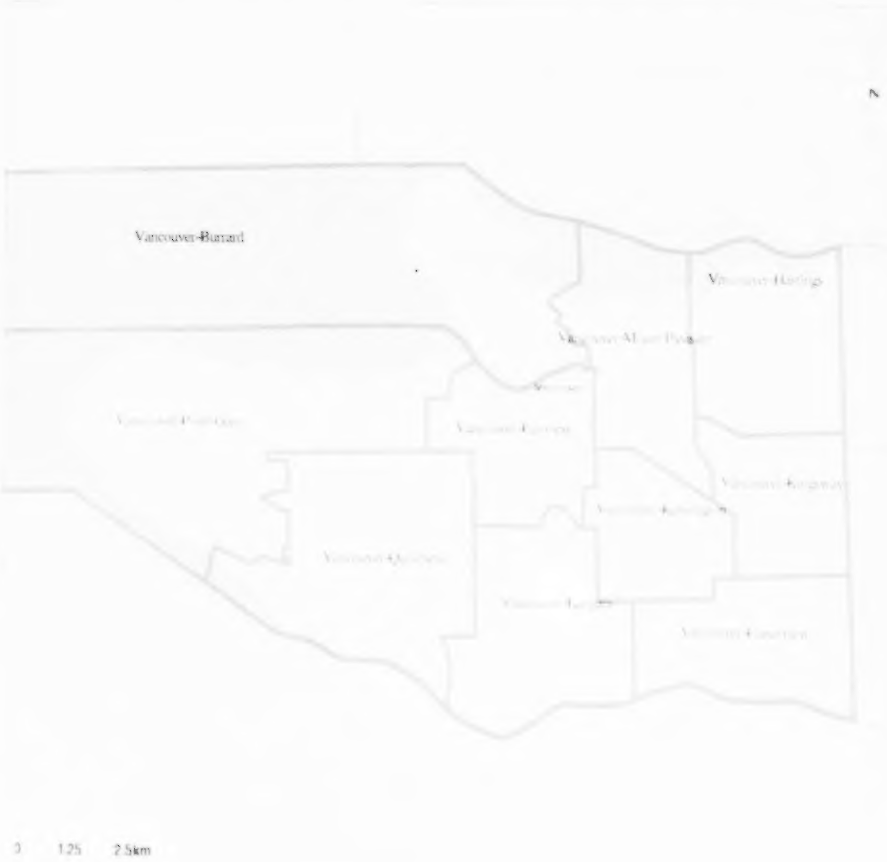
In its interim report, the Wood Commission recommended that Vancouver continue to have 10 electoral districts (see Vancouver, Map 8). Because of significant population growth in Vancouver-Burrard due to development of Yaletown and the Expo 86 site, the commission recommended that the area between False Creek and Pacific and Expo Boulevards be joined with areas south of False Creek, with that district's name being changed from Vancouver-Little Mountain to Vancouver-Fairview. It made numerous other boundary changes, in order to achieve relative voter parity among the electoral districts.

In its final report (see Vancouver, Map 9), the commission was persuaded that it would be wrong to disrupt the strong social, cultural and commercial ties that presently bound the north shore of False Creek to the downtown neighbourhood. It restored the south-eastern boundary of Vancouver-Burrard to the False Creek waterway, adding:

> However, it is important to note that if our concerns about future population growth in the Yaletown and former Expo 86 grounds are borne out over the next decade, it may very well be impossible to respect the anticipated downtown orientation of this emerging neighbourhood at the next redistribution.


N
Vancouver-Burrard
Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Kingsway
Vancouver-Langara
Vancouver-Fraserview
0
1.25
2.5km

Vancouver, Map 8



Vancouver, Map 9

It also moved the eastern boundary of Vancouver–Burrard further west, so that all of the Downtown Eastside was within one electoral district (Vancouver–Mount Pleasant). The commission heard objections to its decision to move the boundary between Vancouver–Mount Pleasant and Vancouver–Hastings further west, from Victoria Drive to Commercial Drive, on the basis that it now divided "an important social, cultural and light commercial centre with a unique and distinctive character." However, the commission was unwilling to reverse this decision because of the need to balance population among Vancouver districts, and because any division between these two districts would inevitably divide the larger Grandview-Woodland neighbourhood.

The commission made several other boundary adjustments in order to balance population among districts. It noted that, while the City of Vancouver officially recognized 23 neighbourhoods, it was not always possible to accommodate that many neighbourhoods within 10 electoral districts.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

2. *Our analysis of Vancouver's electoral districts*

The City of Vancouver currently has 10 electoral districts (see map on page 260.) These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census and now, are as follows (see Table 25):

TABLE 25: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN VANCOUVER

Electoral District	1996 deviation*	2006 deviation**
Vancouver-Hastings	+13.7%	+5.1%
Vancouver-Kingsway	+11.3%	+16.7%
Vancouver-Fraserview	+6.7%	+7.8%
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	+10.2%	+5.6%
Vancouver-Kensington	+9.4%	+5.3%
Vancouver-Burrard	+12.4%	+52.7%
Vancouver-Fairview	+10.2%	+8%
Vancouver-Langara	+10%	+9.4%
Vancouver–Point Grey	+10.5%	+14.5%
Vancouver-Quilchena	+13.2%	+8.3%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

Two important findings emerge from this table. First, population growth in Vancouver-Burrard, up from 53,000 in 1996 to 79,529 today, has been exceptional. This is due primarily to the construction of new condominiums in Yaletown, and the numerous new condominium developments on the Expo 86 site and in Coal Harbour.[62] Second, the deviations in the other nine electoral districts averaged plus 10.6 percent when they were established in 1999, whereas now they have moderated back to an average of plus 9 percent.

Vancouver's current population is 590,243. This includes the City of Vancouver (pop. 578,041), and First Nations and University Endowment Lands (total pop. 12,202) situated within the current 10 Vancouver electoral districts. Rebalancing population among the existing 10 electoral districts would produce an average deviation of plus 13.4 percent (based on 79 electoral districts), difficult to justify considering this is an area of rapid growth and the most densely populated urban area of the province.

Increasing the number of electoral districts to 11 would result in an average deviation of plus 5.7 percent based on 81 electoral districts, more appropriate for this city. We are satisfied that the number of electoral districts in the City of Vancouver should be increased from 10 to 11.

Focusing on the electoral district with the highest population (Vancouver-Burrard, pop. 79,529), our information indicates that this area will continue to grow over the next few years, primarily in Yaletown and along the north shore of False Creek. There are 11,000 residential units currently under construction, approved for development or in the approval pipeline, which will likely take the current electoral district's population to about 95,000 by 2011.

According to city information, the Woodwards redevelopment will add about 1,200 residents to the current Vancouver–Mount Pleasant electoral district by 2009. With respect to residential construction in the South East False Creek Development Area (north of 2nd Avenue, between Cambie and Main Streets), we understand that 1,500 more units will be completed by 2009, and an additional 1,000 units on the Olympic Village site by 2010. Overall, it is expected that about 13,500 residents will live in the South East False Creek Development area, depending on market conditions.

Vancouver-Burrard consists of all of downtown Vancouver west of Gastown and Chinatown. We were told that renters predominate in the West End, while construction in Coal Harbour, Yaletown and the north shore of False Creek is predominantly condominiums. Some people suggested that a community interests approach might lead to creating a "renters" district in the West End, and an "owners" district in Coal Harbour, Yaletown and the north shore of False Creek.

---

[62] According to the City of Vancouver's planning department, 10,500 residential units have been completed in the current Vancouver-Burrard electoral district since the 2001 census, primarily in the Bayshore/Coal Harbour area, in the downtown south area bounded by Smithe, Seymour, Homer and Drake, and along the north shore of False Creek in the Beach neighbourhood east of the Granville Street bridge.

Residents of the current Vancouver–Mount Pleasant electoral district told us that the issues facing them, and their community interests, were quite distinct from those of the residents of Vancouver-Burrard, and that neither area would be well served by moving Vancouver–Mount Pleasant's western boundary further west into what is now Vancouver-Burrard. Gastown and Chinatown form an informal boundary between these two areas (which it was suggested should be preserved intact) and these two historical areas are more naturally aligned to Vancouver–Mount Pleasant than to Vancouver-Burrard.

At the same time, residents of Vancouver-Fairview emphasized that the low-rise residential development south of False Creek has taken a very different course from the predominantly high-rise development north of False Creek.

We are satisfied that the West End, an identifiable neighbourhood, should constitute one electoral district, which we propose be named Vancouver–West End (see map of proposed Vancouver–West End electoral district). For population-balancing reasons, its eastern boundary would be Thurlow Street (from Sunset Beach to Davie Street), and Burrard Street (from Davie Street to the Burrard Inlet). It will have a deviation of minus 4.1 percent but, based on our information, we expect this will likely be reduced or eliminated by the time of the 2009 election, due to new construction in the Coal Harbour area.

The remaining area of the existing Vancouver-Burrard district, to the east of Thurlow and Burrard Streets, has a current population of approximately 30,800, far too low for its own electoral district. Even adding the anticipated growth along the north shore of False Creek would not bring this area up to a reasonable population for an electoral district. Consequently, it needs to be joined with an adjacent residential area. We agree with the views expressed by residents of Vancouver–Mount Pleasant, that adding this light commercial and residential area to Gastown, Chinatown and the Downtown Eastside would not appear to be an appropriate mix.

On balance, we think that this area of Vancouver-Burrard should be joined with the area immediately south of False Creek, in a new electoral district that we propose be named Vancouver–False Creek. It would extend from Main Street in the east to Kitsilano Beach in the west, with a southern boundary following the main arterial of 2nd Avenue, 6th Avenue and 4th Avenue. Rather than perceiving False Creek to be a barrier, we see this as a community that revolves around False Creek. Areas to the north and south of the creek are connected by the Burrard, Granville and Cambie Street bridges, as well as Quebec and Main Streets at the eastern end. At present, this proposed electoral district will have a deviation of minus 14.2 percent. However, BC Stats population projections to 2013 (see Appendix O) and other information we have received indicates the population of this proposed electoral district will meet or exceed the provincial electoral quotient by the 2013 election.

We have also made minor adjustments to several other boundaries of electoral districts in the City of Vancouver (see maps of other 9 proposed Vancouver electoral districts pages 261-272), to partially balance population among the remaining districts. For example, we are proposing that:

- the boundary between Vancouver-Hastings and Vancouver-Kingsway follow East 12th Avenue between Commercial Drive and Lakewood, instead of the Grandview Highway;
- the boundary between Vancouver-Kingsway and Vancouver-Fraserview follow East 41st Avenue between Nanaimo Street and Rupert Street, instead of East 45th Avenue;
- the boundary between Vancouver–Mount Pleasant and Vancouver–False Creek, between Terminal Avenue and Union Street, follow Main Street instead of Quebec Street;
- the boundary between Vancouver-Kensington and Vancouver-Fairview, between King Edward Avenue and 33rd Avenue, follow Main Street instead of Ontario Street;
- the northern boundary of Vancouver-Fairview follow the 2nd Avenue, 6th Avenue and 4th Avenue arterial, instead of False Creek; and,
- the eastern boundary of Vancouver–Point Grey extend only to Arbutus Street.

Although the revised boundaries leave some electoral districts with double-digit deviations, we concluded the recognition of well-established neighbourhoods and communities is preferable to significant changes to all districts, in order to achieve balanced deviations.

3. Conclusion

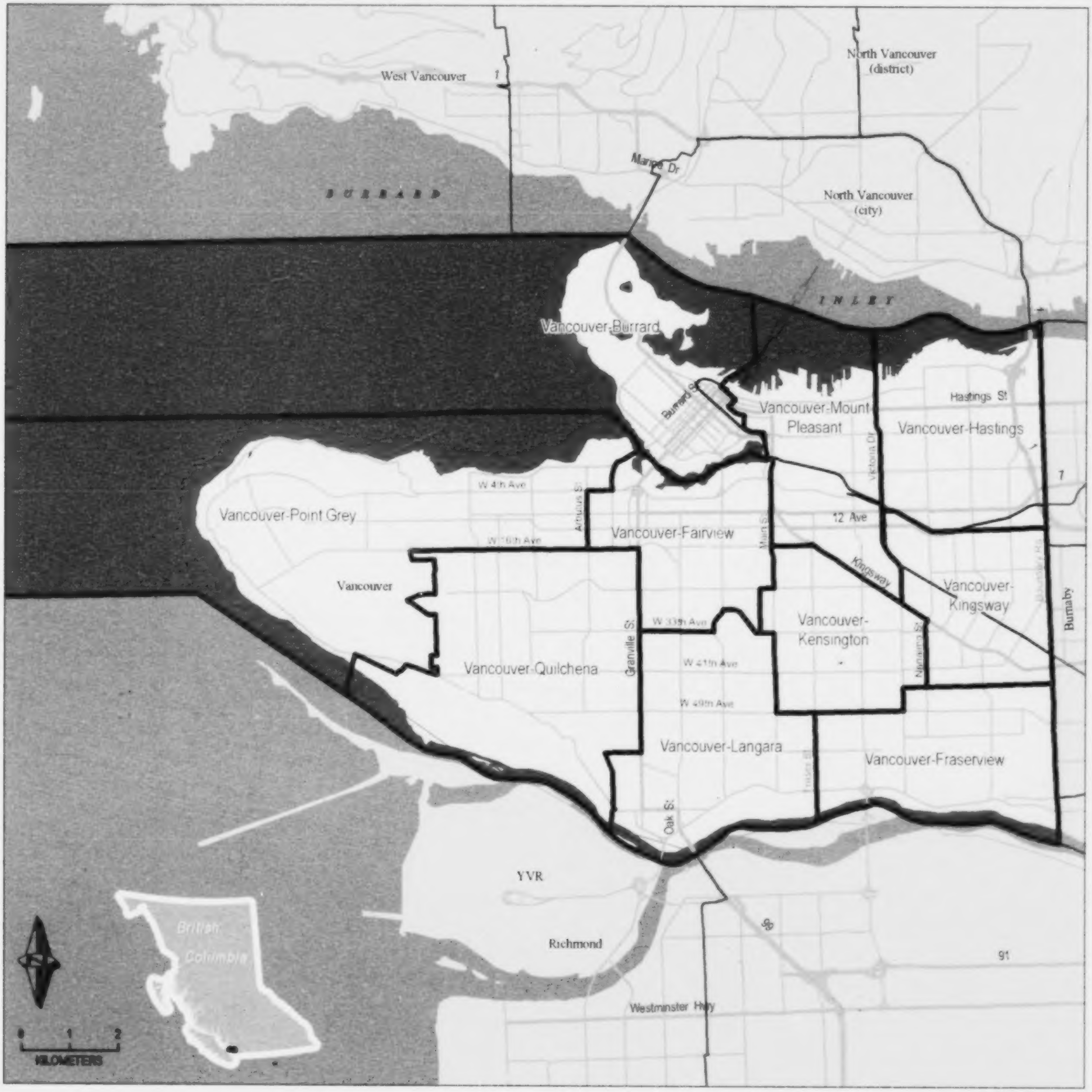
Accordingly, we propose that there be 11 electoral districts in Vancouver, as follows:

TABLE [illegible] ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN VANCOUVER

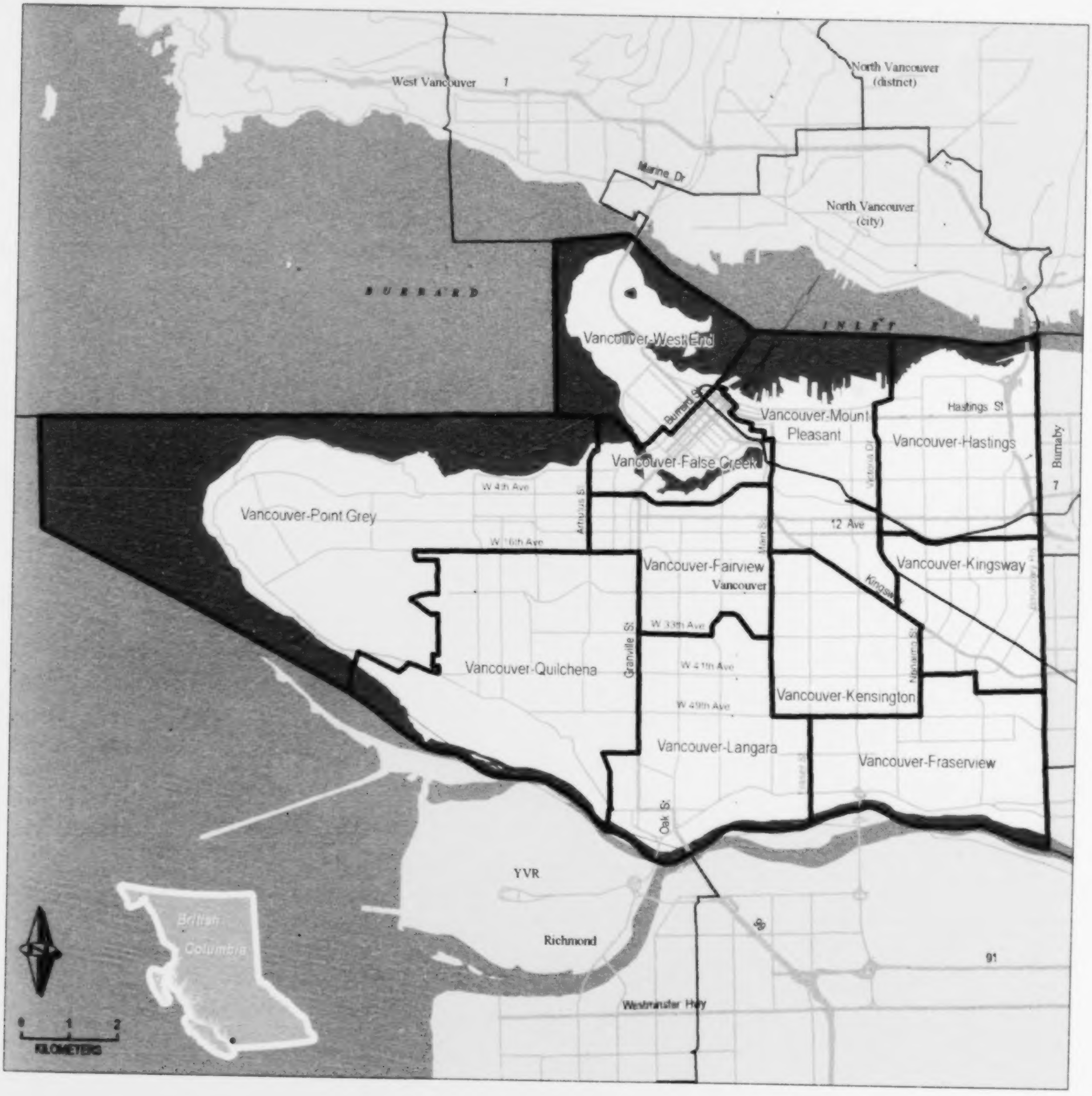
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Vancouver-Hastings	14	55,595	+9.5%
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	57,185	+12.6%
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	57,276	+12.8%
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	13	52,628	+3.6%
Vancouver-Kensington	9	54,967	+8.2%
Vancouver–West End	12	48,725	-4.1%
Vancouver–False Creek	6	43,568	-14.2%
Vancouver-Fairview	9	52,020	+2.4%
Vancouver-Langara	15	57,047	+12.3%
Vancouver–Point Grey	44	54,823	+8%
Vancouver-Quilchena	22	56,409	+11.1%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

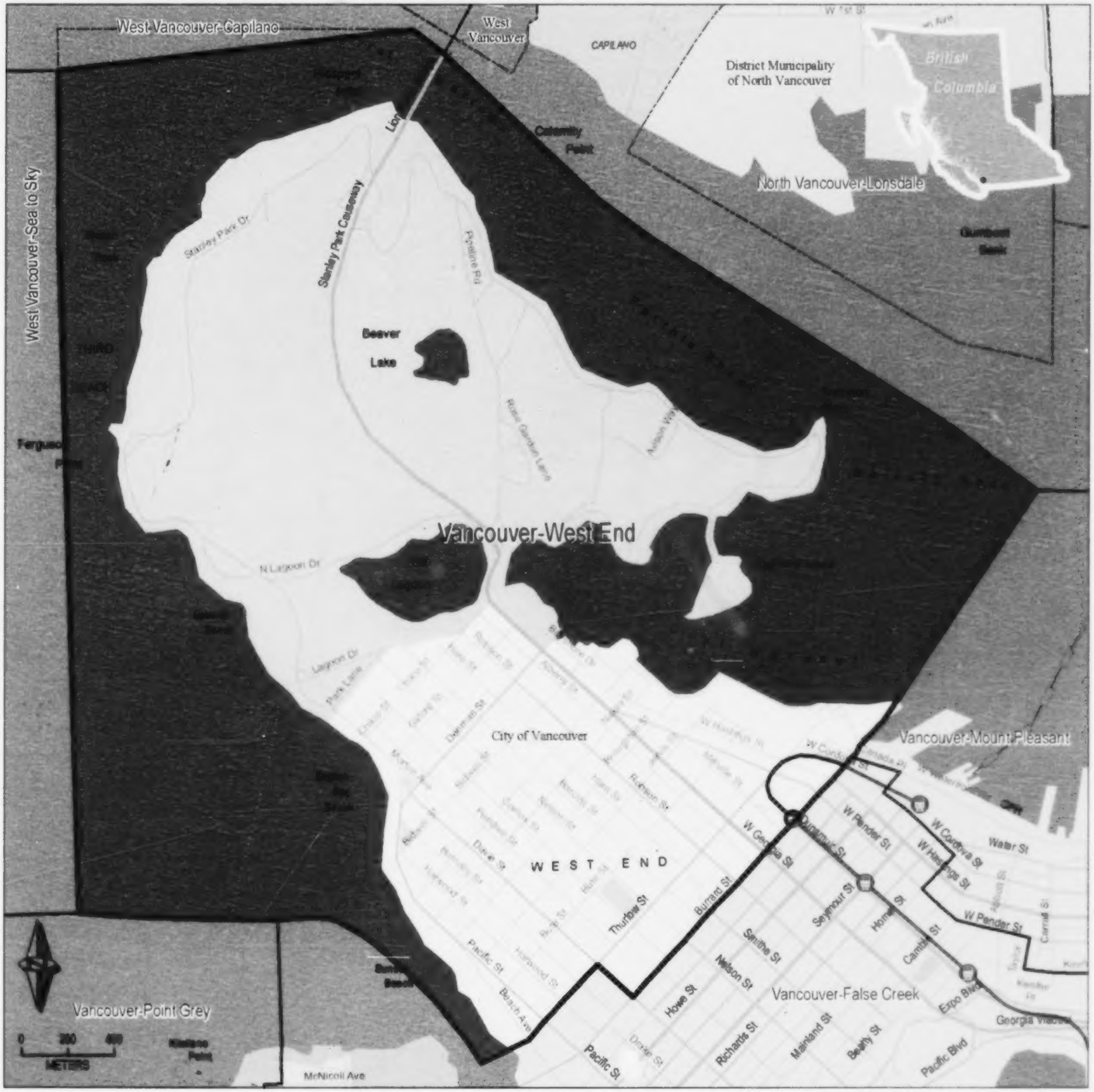
Region: Vancouver – Current Electoral Districts


West Vancouver
North Vancouver (district)
Marine Dr
BURRARD
North Vancouver (city)
INLET
Vancouver-Burrard
Burrard St
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Hastings St
Vancouver-Hastings
Victoria Dr
7
W 4th Ave
Arbutus St
Vancouver-Point Grey
12 Ave
Vancouver-Fairview
W 16th Ave
Main St
Kingsway
Vancouver
Vancouver-Kingsway
Burnaby
W 33th Ave
Granville St
Vancouver-Kensington
W 41th Ave
Vancouver-Quilchena
Nanaimo St
W 49th Ave
Vancouver-Langara
Vancouver-Fraserview
Fraser St
Oak St
YVR
99
Richmond
91
Westminster Hwy
British Columbia
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

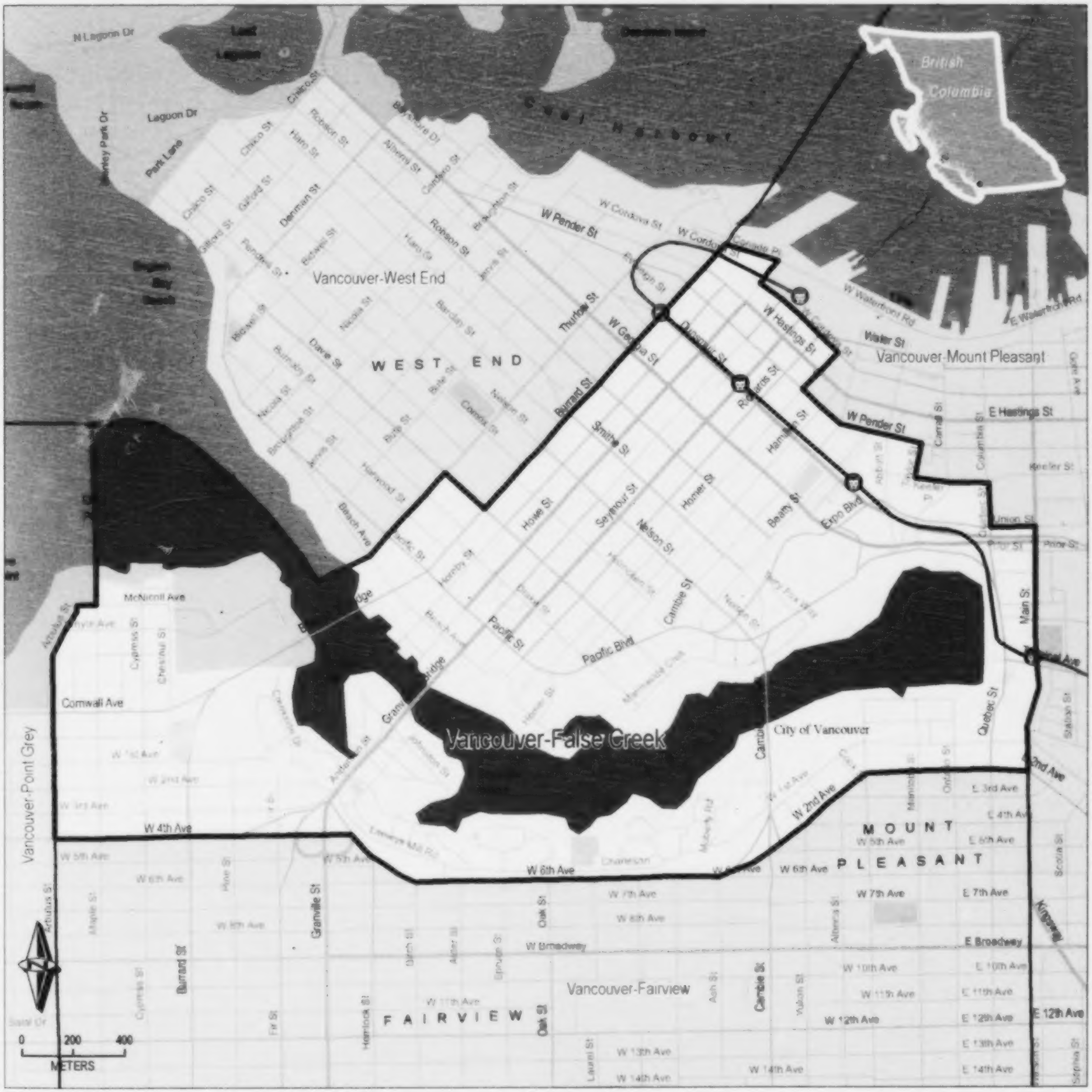
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Electoral Districts


West Vancouver
1
North Vancouver (district)
Marine Dr
North Vancouver (city)
BURRARD
INLET
Vancouver-West End
Burrard St
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Hastings St
Vancouver-Hastings
Burnaby
7
Vancouver-False Creek
W 4th Ave
Arbutus St
Vancouver-Point Grey
W 16th Ave
12 Ave
Main St
Victoria Dr
Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver
Vancouver-Kingsway
Kingsway
Vancouver-Quilchena
Granville St
W 33th Ave
W 41th Ave
W 49th Ave
Nanaimo St
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Langara
Fraser St
Vancouver-Fraserview
Oak St
YVR
Richmond
99
91
Westminster Hwy
British Columbia
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

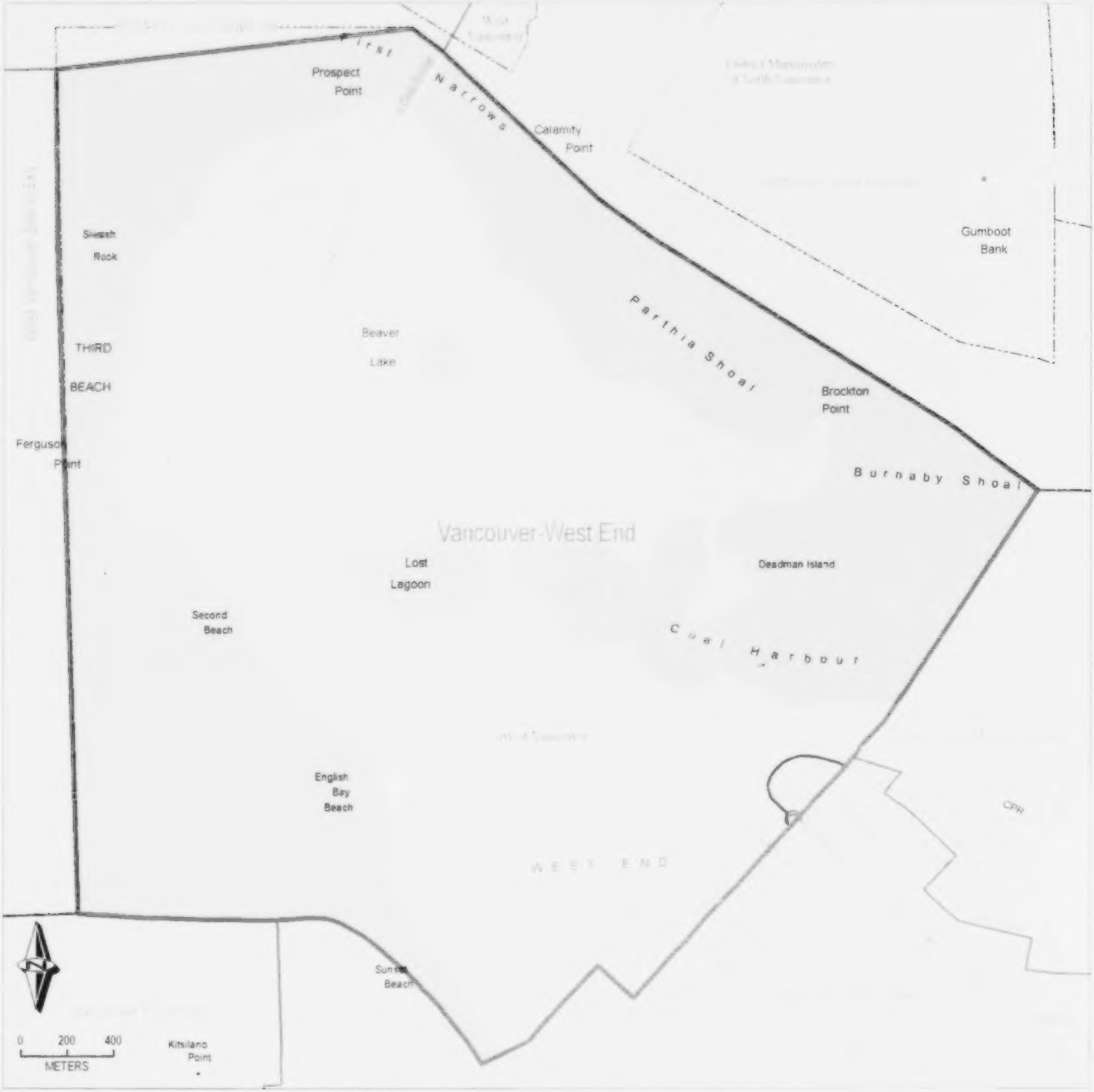
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–West End Electoral District


West Vancouver-Capilano
West Vancouver
CAPILANO
District Municipality of North Vancouver
British Columbia
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
Stanley Park Dr
Stanley Park Causeway
Pipeline Rd
Beaver Lake
Rose Garden Lane
Avison Way
Vancouver-West End
N Lagoon Dr
Lagoon Dr
Park Lane
City of Vancouver
WEST END
Robson St
Denman St
Davie St
Pacific St
Beach Ave
Thurlow St
Burrard St
W Georgia St
Dunsmuir St
W Pender St
W Hastings St
W Cordova St
Water St
Seymour St
Homer St
Cambie St
Smithe St
Nelson St
Howe St
Richards St
Mainland St
Beatty St
Expo Blvd
Pacific Blvd
Georgia Viaduct
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver-False Creek
Vancouver-Point Grey
McNicoll Ave
0
200
400
METERS

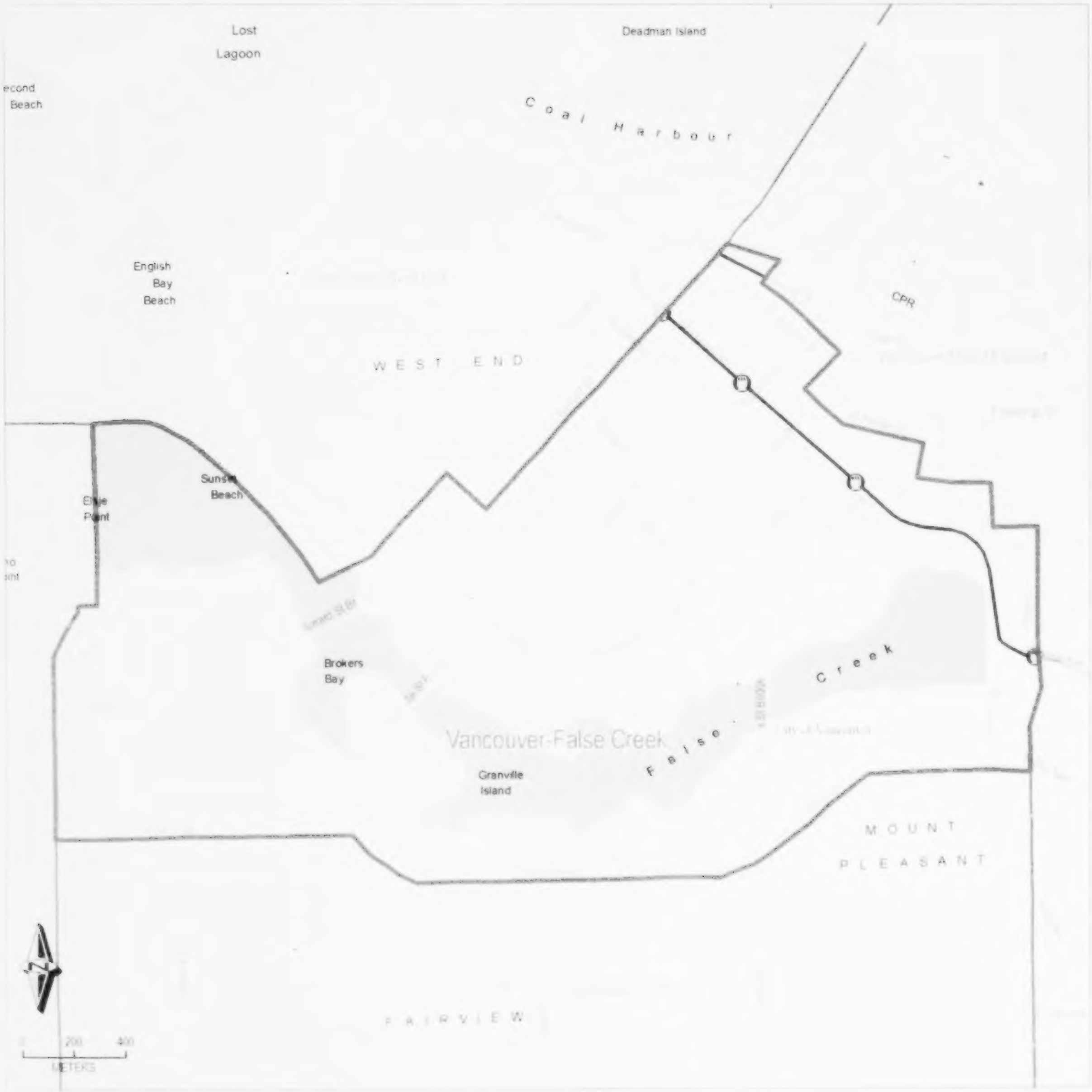
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–False Creek Electoral District


Vancouver-False Creek
Vancouver-West End
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Fairview
City of Vancouver
WEST END
MOUNT PLEASANT
FAIRVIEW
Coal Harbour
British Columbia
Lost Lagoon
N Lagoon Dr
Lagoon Dr
Park Lane
Chilco St
Gilford St
Denman St
Robson St
Haro St
Alberni St
Bayshore Dr
Cardero St
Broughton St
W Cordova St
W Pender St
Thurlow St
W Georgia St
Burrard St
Nicola St
Bidwell St
Davie St
Barclay St
Nelson St
Comox St
Bute St
Burnaby St
Jervis St
Harwood St
Beach Ave
Pacific St
Hornby St
Howe St
Smithe St
Seymour St
Homer St
Robson St
Hamilton St
W Hastings St
Water St
W Waterfront Rd
E Waterfront Rd
Beatty St
Expo Blvd
Cambie St
Pacific Blvd
Carrall St
Columbia St
E Hastings St
Keefer St
Union St
Prior St
Main St
Quebec St
Station St
Terminal Ave
McNicoll Ave
Cornwall Ave
W 4th Ave
W 5th Ave
W 6th Ave
W 7th Ave
W 8th Ave
W Broadway
W 10th Ave
W 11th Ave
W 12th Ave
W 13th Ave
W 14th Ave
W 2nd Ave
E 2nd Ave
E 3rd Ave
E 4th Ave
E 5th Ave
E 7th Ave
E Broadway
E 10th Ave
E 11th Ave
E 12th Ave
E 13th Ave
E 14th Ave
Kingsway
Granville St
Oak St
Arbutus St
Maple St
Cypress St
Pine St
Fir St
Hemlock St
Birch St
Alder St
Spruce St
Laurel St
Ash St
Yukon St
Alberta St
Manitoba St
Ontario St
Scotia St
Sophia St
Moberly Rd
Lamey's Mill Rd
Anderson St
Chestnut St
0
200
400
METERS

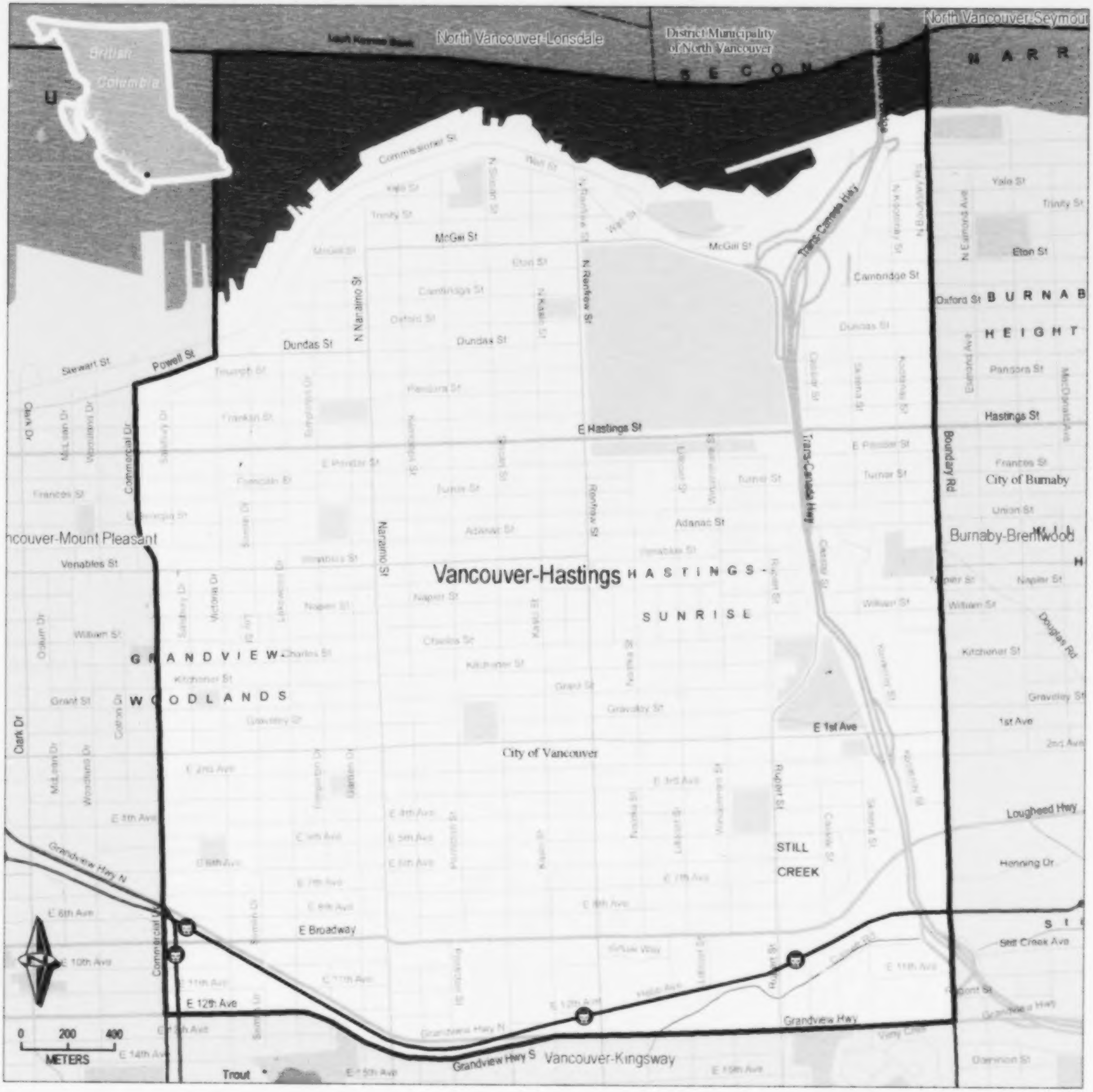
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-West End Electoral District


West Vancouver
First Narrows
Prospect Point
Calamity Point
District Municipality of North Vancouver
Gumboot Bank
Siwash Rock
Beaver Lake
Parthia Shoal
THIRD BEACH
Brockton Point
Ferguson Point
Burnaby Shoal
Vancouver-West End
Lost Lagoon
Deadman Island
Second Beach
Coal Harbour
City of Vancouver
English Bay Beach
CPR
WEST END
Sunset Beach
0
200
400
METERS
Kitsilano Point

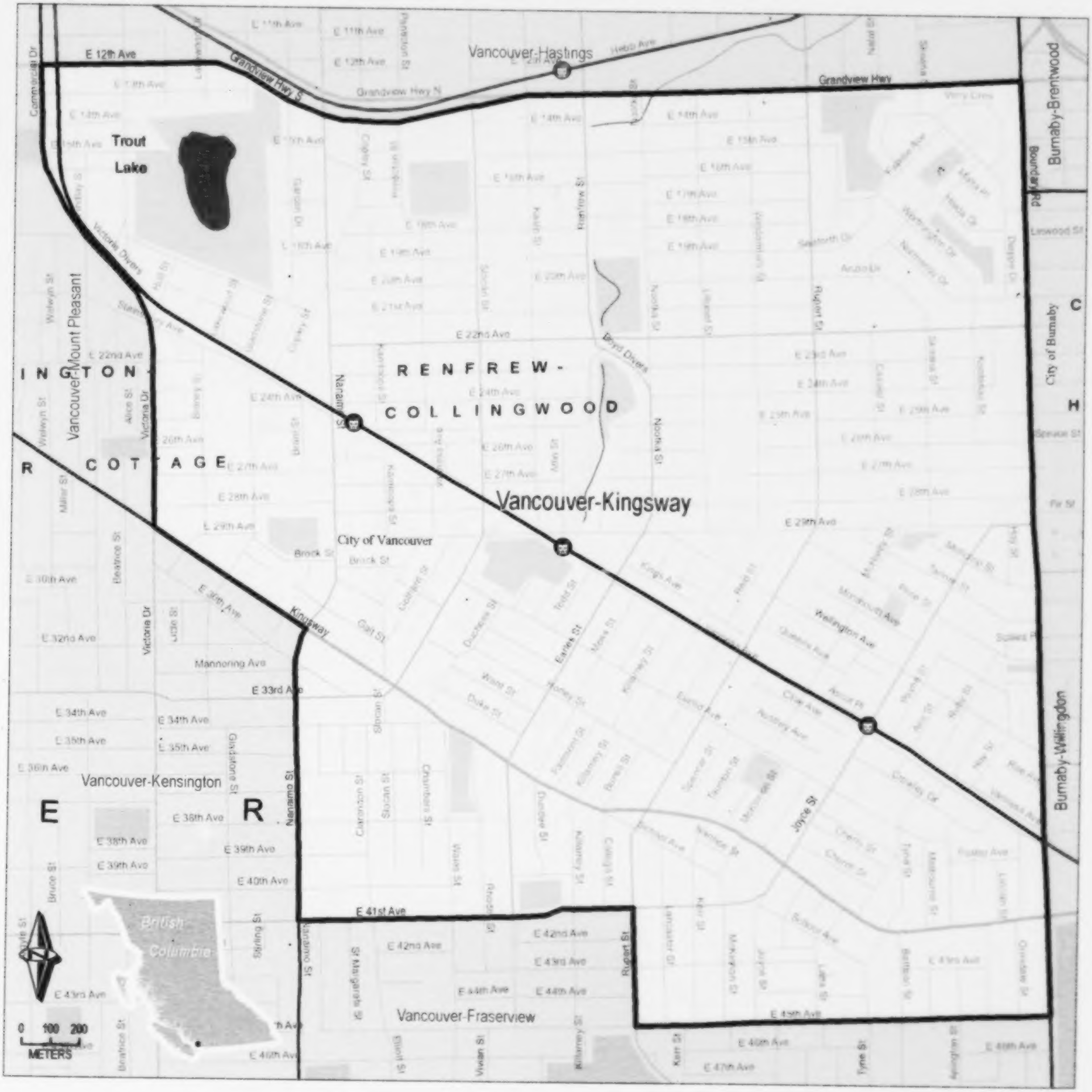
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–False Creek Electoral District


Lost
Lagoon
Deadman Island
econd
Beach
Coal Harbour
English
Bay
Beach
CPR
WEST END
Sunset
Beach
Elbe
Point
ho
oint
Brokers
Bay
Creek
Vancouver-False Creek
False
Granville
Island
MOUNT
PLEASANT
FAIRVIEW
0
200
400
METERS

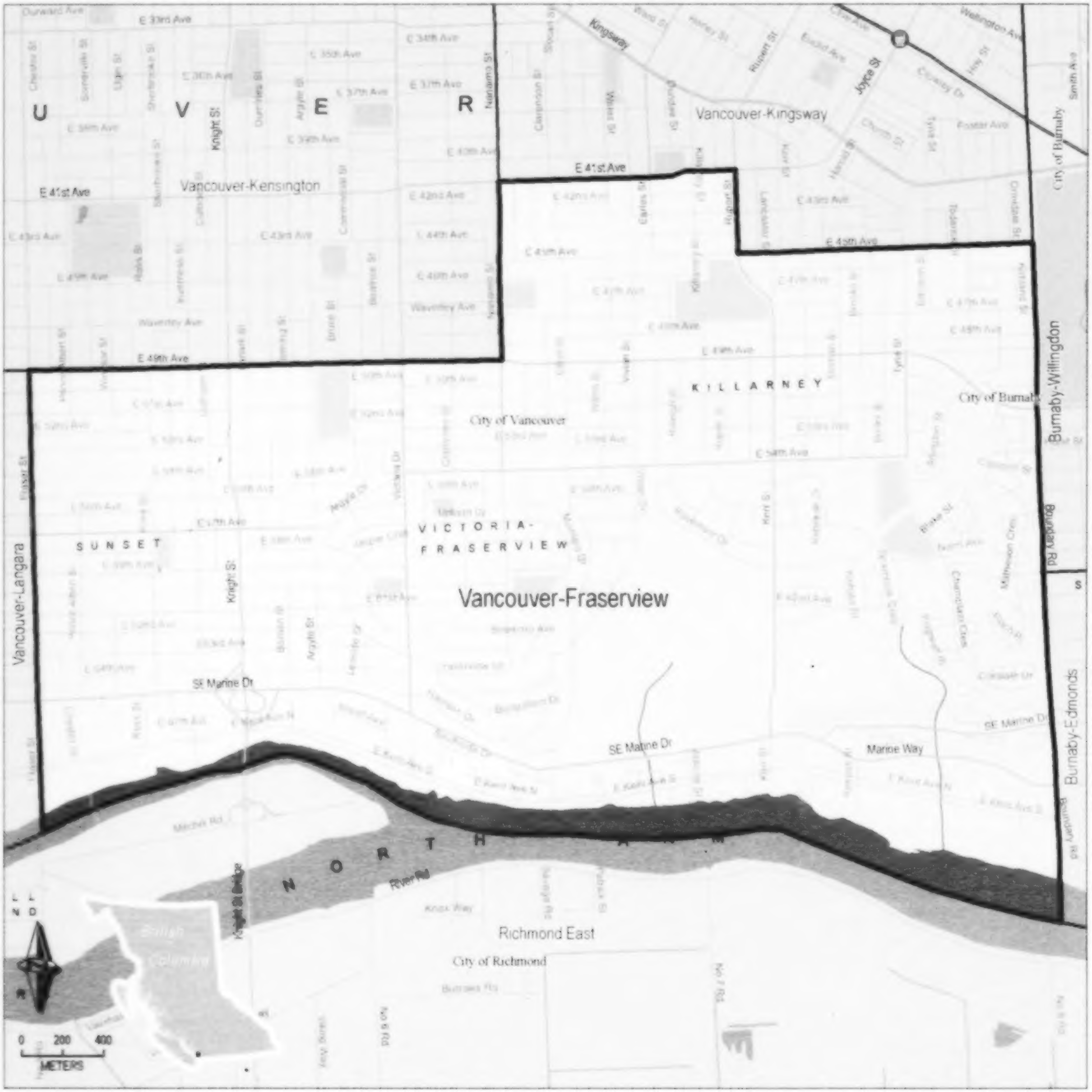
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Hastings Electoral District


British Columbia
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
District Municipality of North Vancouver
North Vancouver-Seymour
Commissioner St
McGill St
Dundas St
Powell St
Stewart St
Commercial Dr
Clark Dr
N Nanaimo St
N Renfrew St
E Hastings St
Hastings St
Trans-Canada Hwy
Cambridge St
Eton St
Oxford St
BURNABY HEIGHTS
Boundary Rd
City of Burnaby
Burnaby-Brentwood
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Venables St
Vancouver-Hastings
HASTINGS-SUNRISE
GRANDVIEW-WOODLANDS
Nanaimo St
Renfrew St
Adanac St
William St
Grant St
Kitchener St
E 1st Ave
City of Vancouver
Rupert St
STILL CREEK
Lougheed Hwy
Douglas Rd
Still Creek Ave
Grandview Hwy N
E Broadway
E 12th Ave
Grandview Hwy
Grandview Hwy S
Vancouver-Kingsway
Trout
0 200 400
METERS

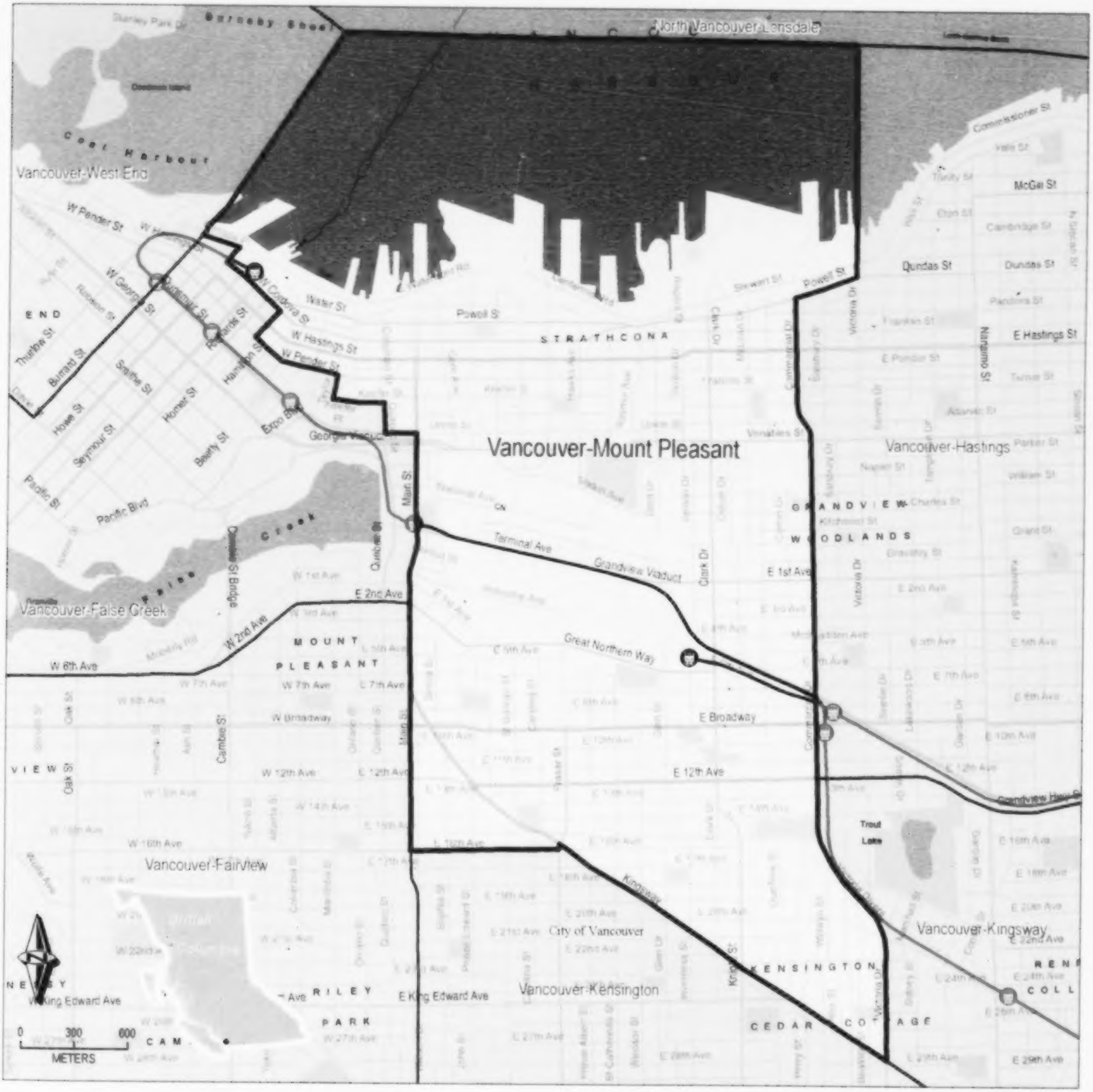
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Kingsway Electoral District


Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouver-Kingsway
RENFREW-COLLINGWOOD
City of Vancouver
Trout Lake
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Fraserview
Burnaby-Brentwood
Burnaby-Willingdon
City of Burnaby
KENSINGTON-CEDAR COTTAGE
Grandview Hwy
Kingsway
E 12th Ave
E 22nd Ave
E 29th Ave
E 33rd Ave
E 41st Ave
E 45th Ave
Boundary Rd
Nanaimo St
Rupert St
Victoria Dr
Commercial Dr
Joyce St
Knight St
British Columbia
0 100 200
METERS

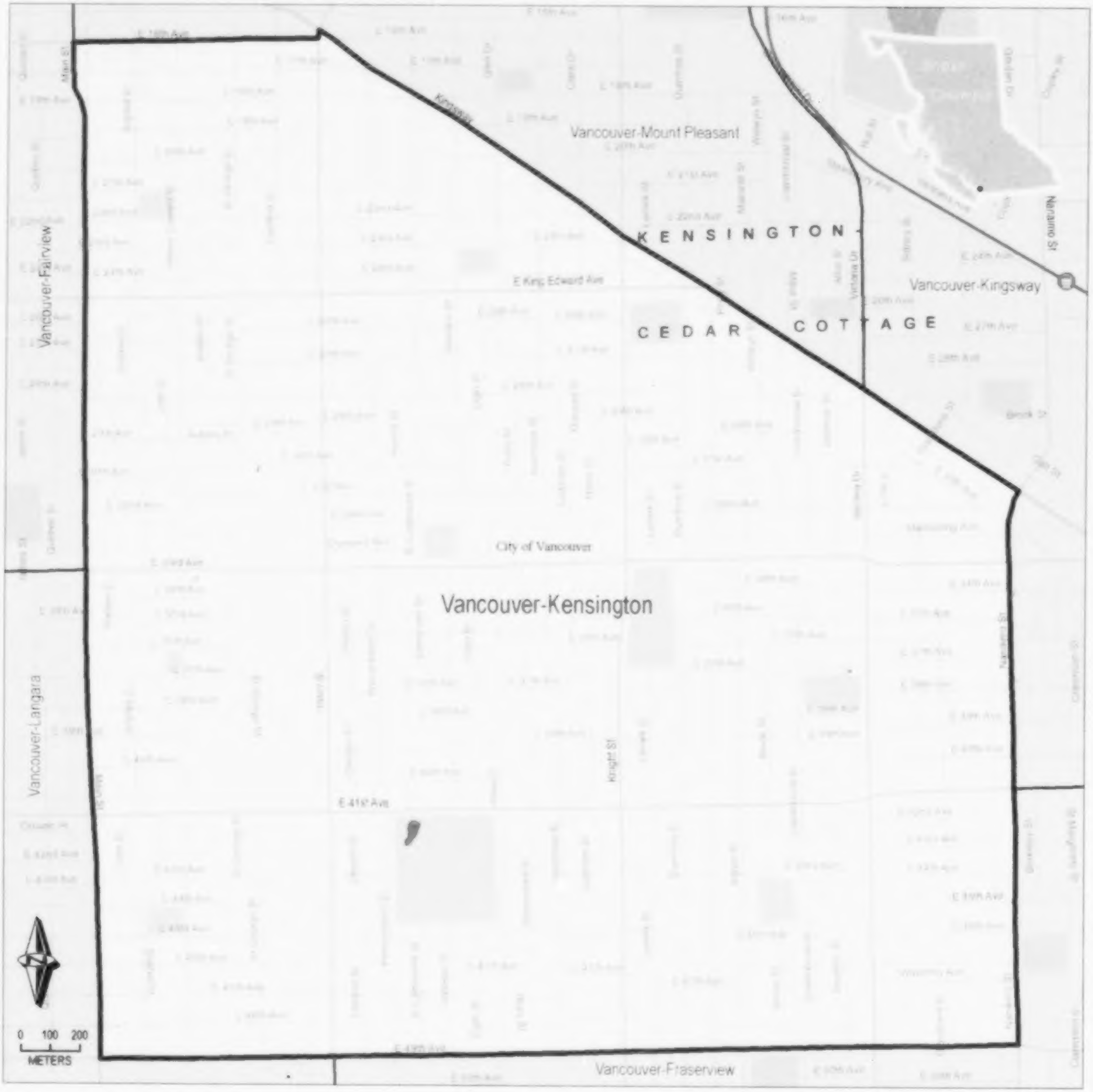
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Fraserview Electoral District


Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Kingsway
Vancouver-Fraserview
Vancouver-Langara
Burnaby-Willingdon
Burnaby-Edmonds
Richmond East
City of Vancouver
City of Burnaby
City of Richmond
KILLARNEY
VICTORIA-FRASERVIEW
SUNSET
NORTH ARM
Kingsway
E 41st Ave
E 45th Ave
E 49th Ave
Knight St
Boundary Rd
SE Marine Dr
SE Marine Dr
Marine Way
Knight St Bridge
River Rd
No 6 Rd
No 7 Rd
Nanaimo St
Joyce St
Wellington Ave
British Columbia
0 200 400
METERS

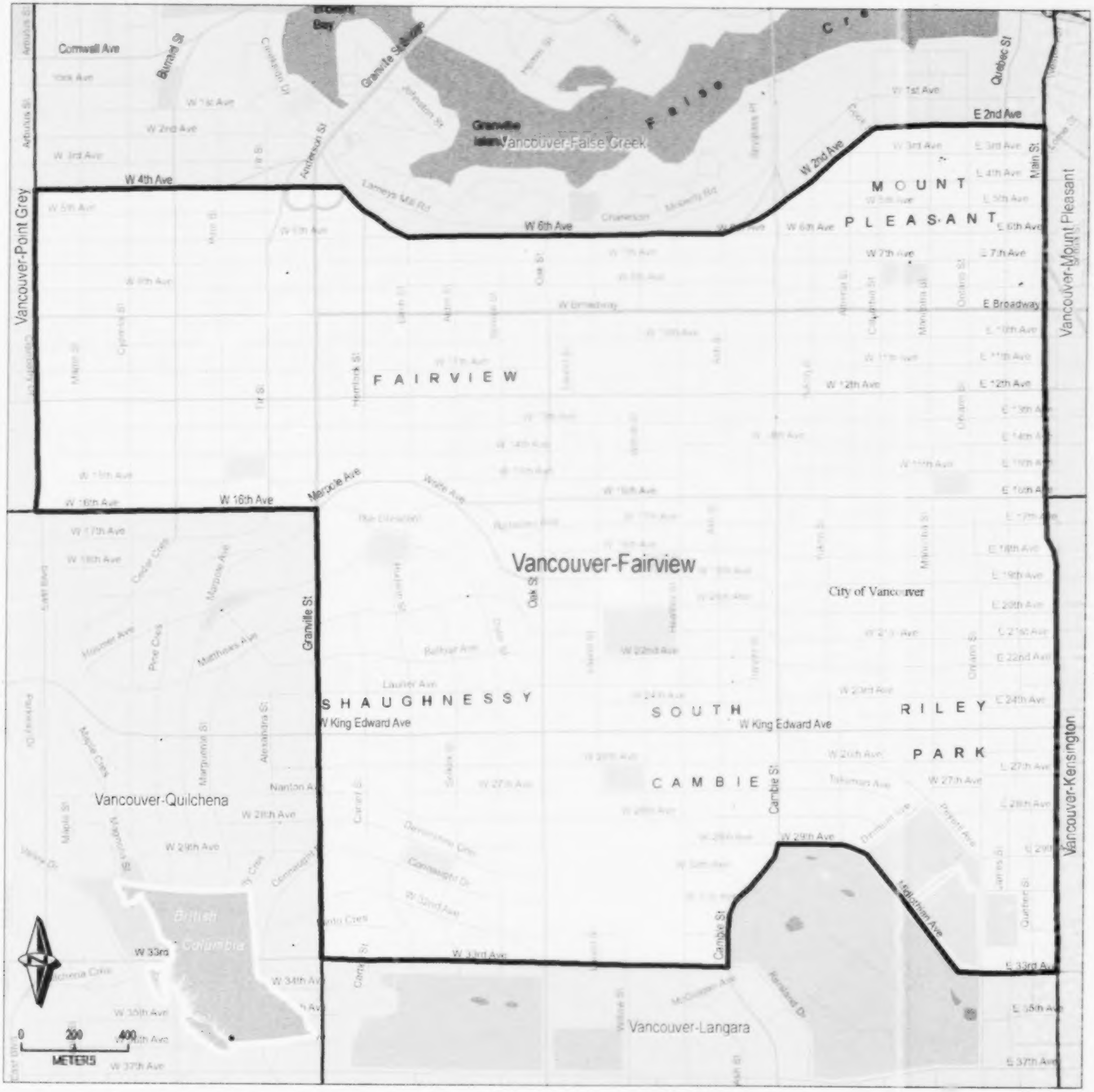
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–Mount Pleasant Electoral District


Burrard Inlet
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Harbour
Coal Harbour
Vancouver-West End
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver-Hastings
Vancouver-False Creek
Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Kingsway
City of Vancouver
STRATHCONA
GRANDVIEW
WOODLANDS
MOUNT PLEASANT
KENSINGTON
CEDAR COTTAGE
RILEY PARK
False Creek
Powell St
E Hastings St
Dundas St
Terminal Ave
Grandview Viaduct
Great Northern Way
E Broadway
E 12th Ave
Kingsway
Main St
Clark Dr
Commercial Dr
Nanaimo St
E King Edward Ave
Trout Lake
0
300
600
METERS

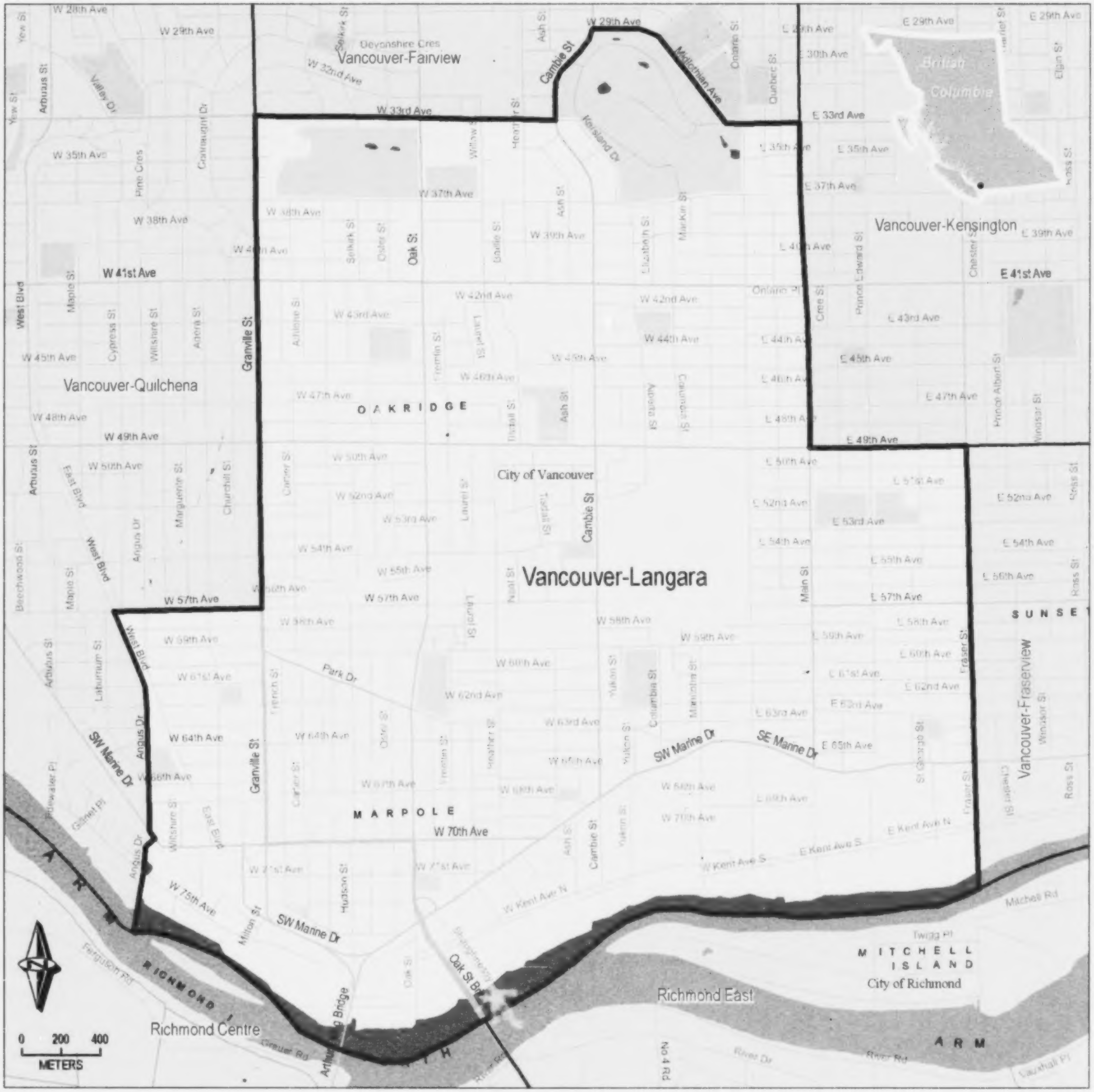
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Kensington Electoral District


E 16th Ave
Kingsway
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
KENSINGTON - CEDAR COTTAGE
Vancouver-Kingsway
Nanaimo St
Victoria Dr
E King Edward Ave
Vancouver-Fairview
Main St
City of Vancouver
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Langara
Knight St
E 41st Ave
E 49th Ave
Vancouver-Fraserview
0 100 200
METERS

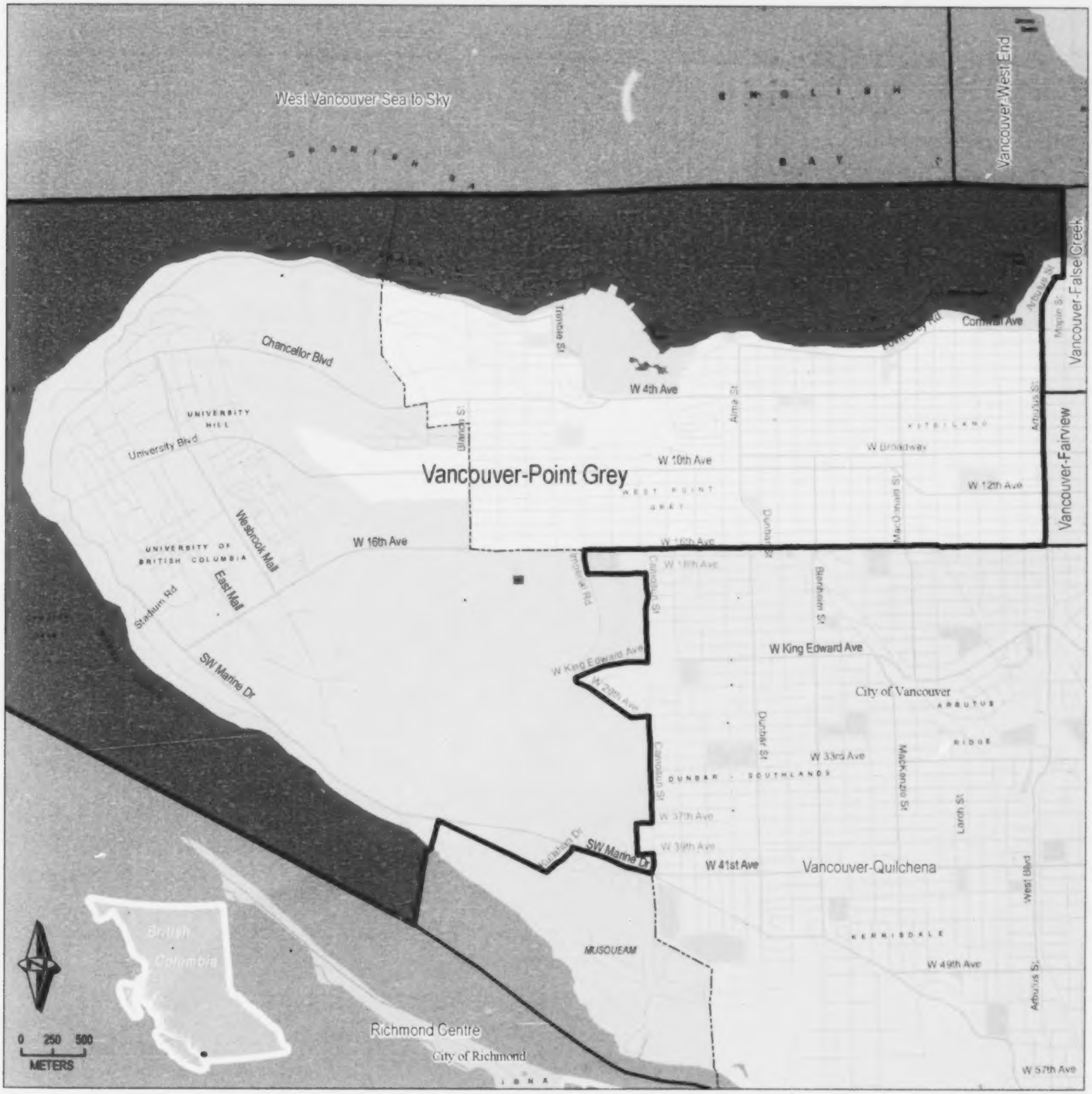
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Fairview Electoral District


Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-False Creek
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Langara
FAIRVIEW
MOUNT PLEASANT
SHAUGHNESSY
SOUTH CAMBIE
RILEY PARK
City of Vancouver
Granville Island
False Creek
W 4th Ave
W 6th Ave
W 2nd Ave
E 2nd Ave
E Broadway
W 16th Ave
Granville St
Oak St
Cambie St
Main St
Quebec St
W King Edward Ave
W 29th Ave
Midlothian Ave
W 33rd Ave
E 33rd Ave
British Columbia
0 200 400
METERS

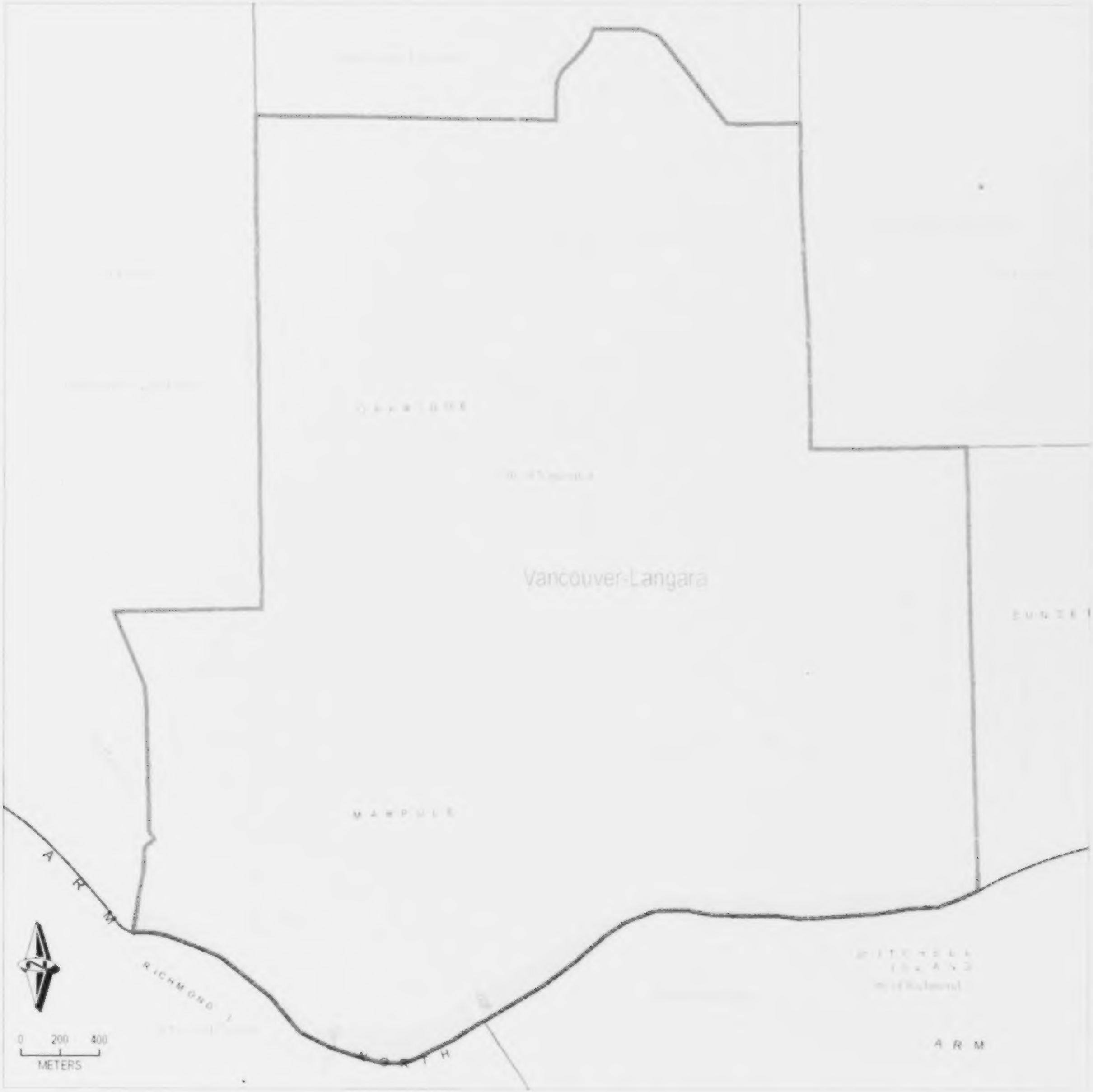
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Langara Electoral District


Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver-Kensington
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Langara
Vancouver-Fraserview
Richmond Centre
Richmond East
City of Vancouver
City of Richmond
OAKRIDGE
MARPOLE
SUNSET
MITCHELL ISLAND
British Columbia
W 28th Ave
W 29th Ave
W 33rd Ave
W 35th Ave
W 37th Ave
W 38th Ave
W 41st Ave
E 41st Ave
W 45th Ave
W 49th Ave
E 49th Ave
W 57th Ave
E 57th Ave
W 70th Ave
Devonshire Cres
Kersland Dr
Midlothian Ave
Cambie St
Granville St
Oak St
Main St
Fraser St
West Blvd
Arbutus St
Angus Dr
Park Dr
SW Marine Dr
SE Marine Dr
W Kent Ave S
E Kent Ave S
E Kent Ave N
W Kent Ave N
Arthur Laing Bridge
Oak St Bridge
No 4 Rd
Mitchell Rd
Twigg Pl
River Rd
Grauer Rd
Ferguson Rd
Milton St
Hudson St
Ash St
Yukon St
Columbia St
Manitoba St
St George St
Chester St
Windsor St
Ross St
Prince Edward St
Prince Albert St
ARM
RICHMOND
0 200 400
METERS

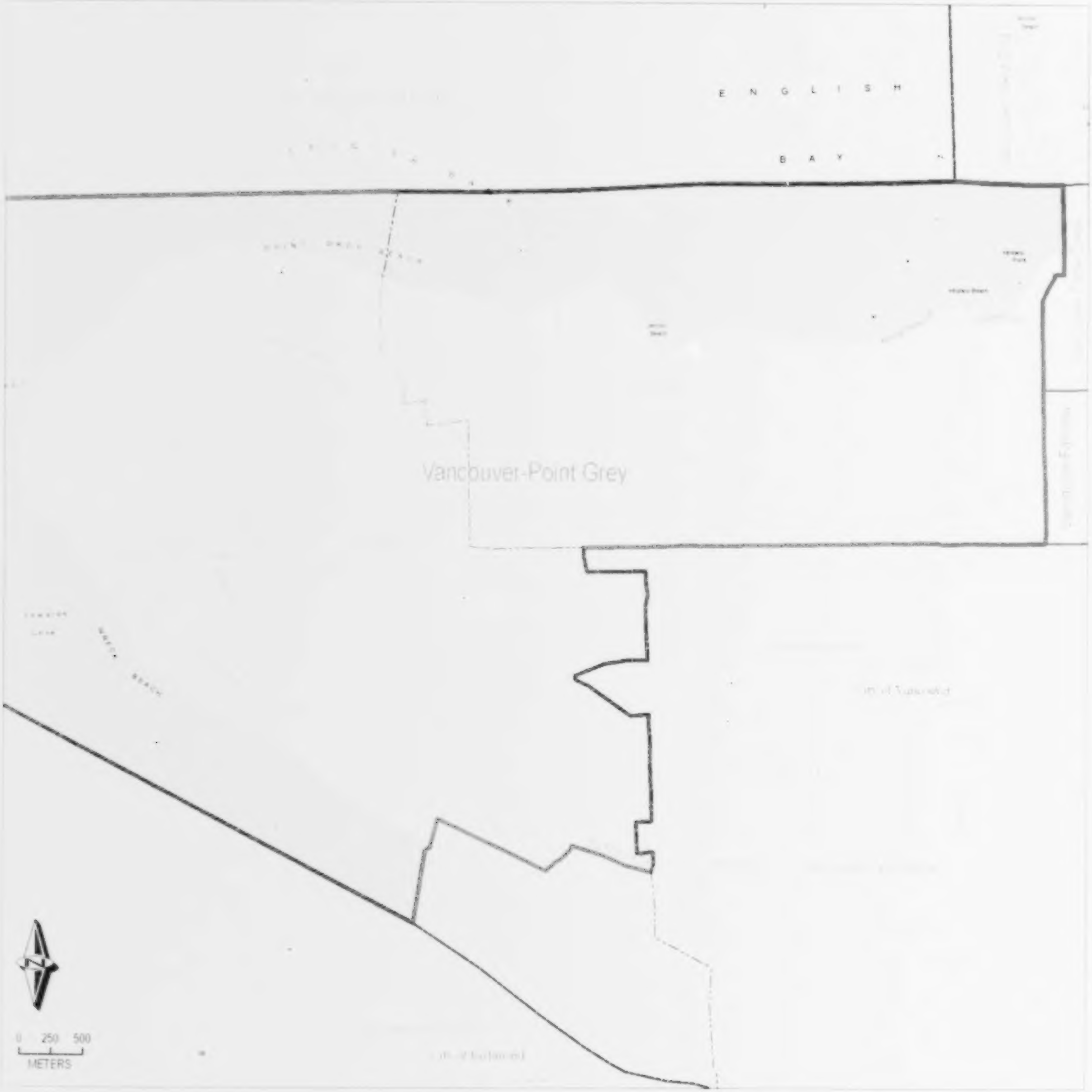
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–Point Grey Electoral District


West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
SPANISH BANKS
ENGLISH BAY
Vancouver-West End
Vancouver-False Creek
Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Quilchena
City of Vancouver
Richmond Centre
City of Richmond
IONA
MUSQUEAM
UNIVERSITY HILL
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
KITSILANO
WEST POINT GREY
ARBUTUS RIDGE
DUNBAR - SOUTHLANDS
KERRISDALE
Chancellor Blvd
University Blvd
Wesbrook Mall
East Mall
Stadium Rd
SW Marine Dr
W 16th Ave
Trimble St
Blanca St
W 4th Ave
W 10th Ave
Alma St
Dunbar St
MacDonald St
W Broadway
W 12th Ave
Point Grey Rd
Cornwall Ave
Arbutus St
Maple St
Imperial Rd
Camosun St
W 18th Ave
Blenheim St
W King Edward Ave
W 29th Ave
W 33rd Ave
Mackenzie St
Larch St
W 37th Ave
W 39th Ave
W 41st Ave
Kullahun Dr
West Blvd
W 49th Ave
W 57th Ave
British Columbia
0 250 500
METERS

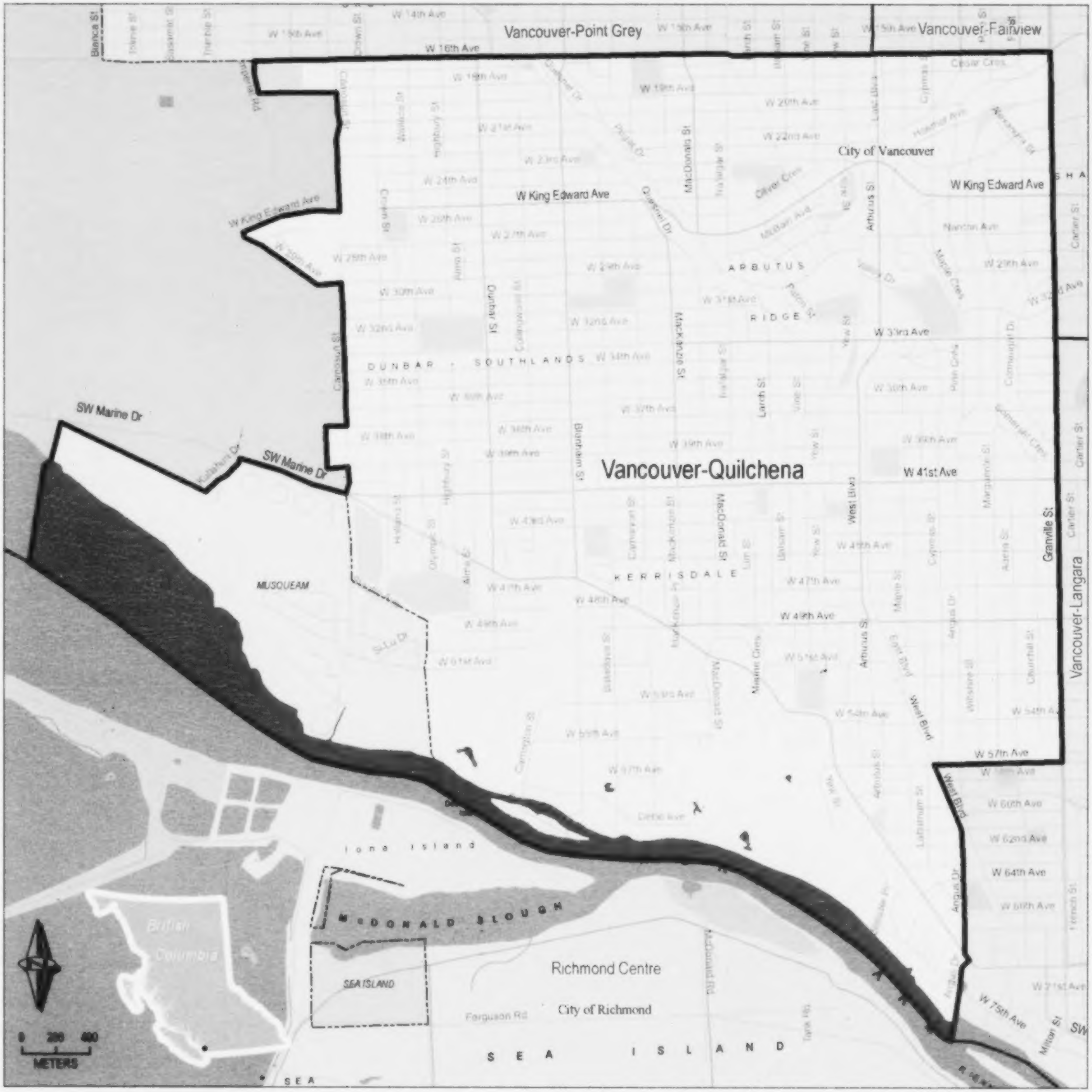
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Langara Electoral District


OAKRIDGE
Vancouver-Langara
SUNSET
MARPOLE
ARM
RICHMOND
NORTH
MITCHELL ISLAND
City of Richmond
ARM
N
0 200 400
METERS

Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Point Grey Electoral District

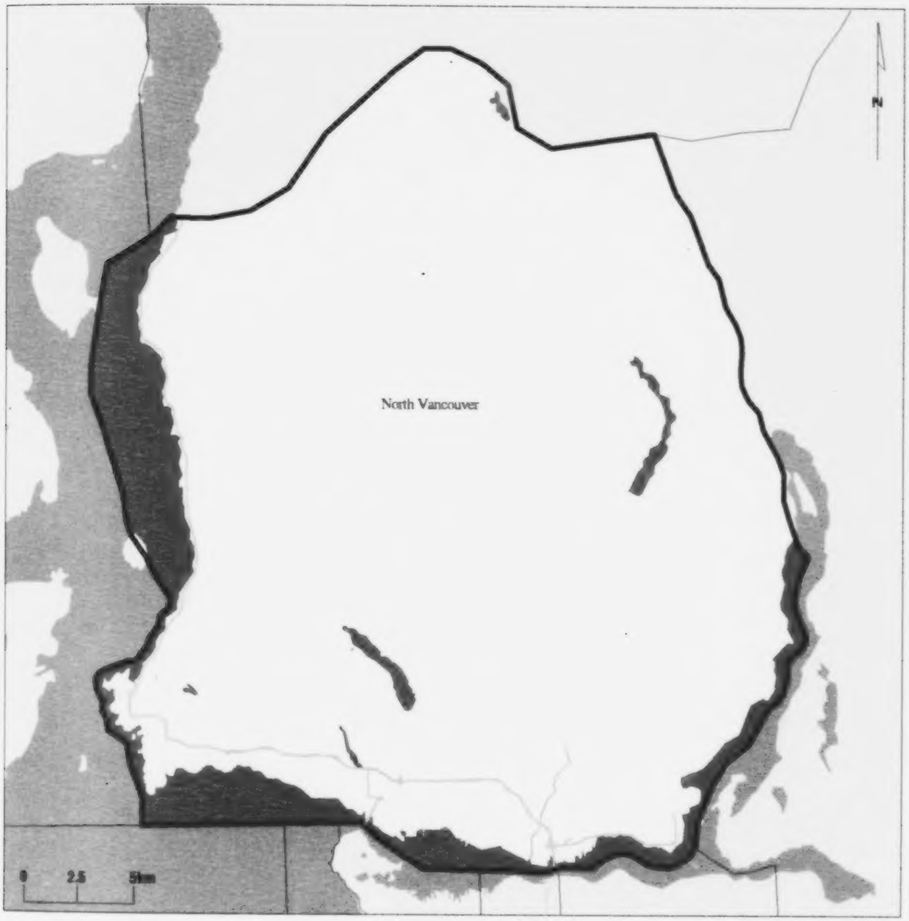

ENGLISH
BAY
Vancouver-Point Grey
City of Vancouver
City of Richmond
N
0 250 500
METERS

Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Quilchena Electoral District


Vancouver-Point Grey
Vancouver-Fairview
Vancouver-Quilchena
Vancouver-Langara
City of Vancouver
W 16th Ave
W King Edward Ave
W 33rd Ave
W 41st Ave
W 49th Ave
W 57th Ave
W 64th Ave
SW Marine Dr
Dunbar St
Camosun St
MacKenzie St
Arbutus St
West Blvd
Granville St
ARBUTUS RIDGE
DUNBAR - SOUTHLANDS
KERRISDALE
MUSQUEAM
Iona Island
McDONALD SLOUGH
SEA ISLAND
Richmond Centre
City of Richmond
British Columbia
0 200 400
METERS

M. The North Shore

Immediately prior to the 1966 Angus Commission, this area had one two-member electoral district (North Vancouver), which included all of the North Shore. (see North Shore, Map 1).



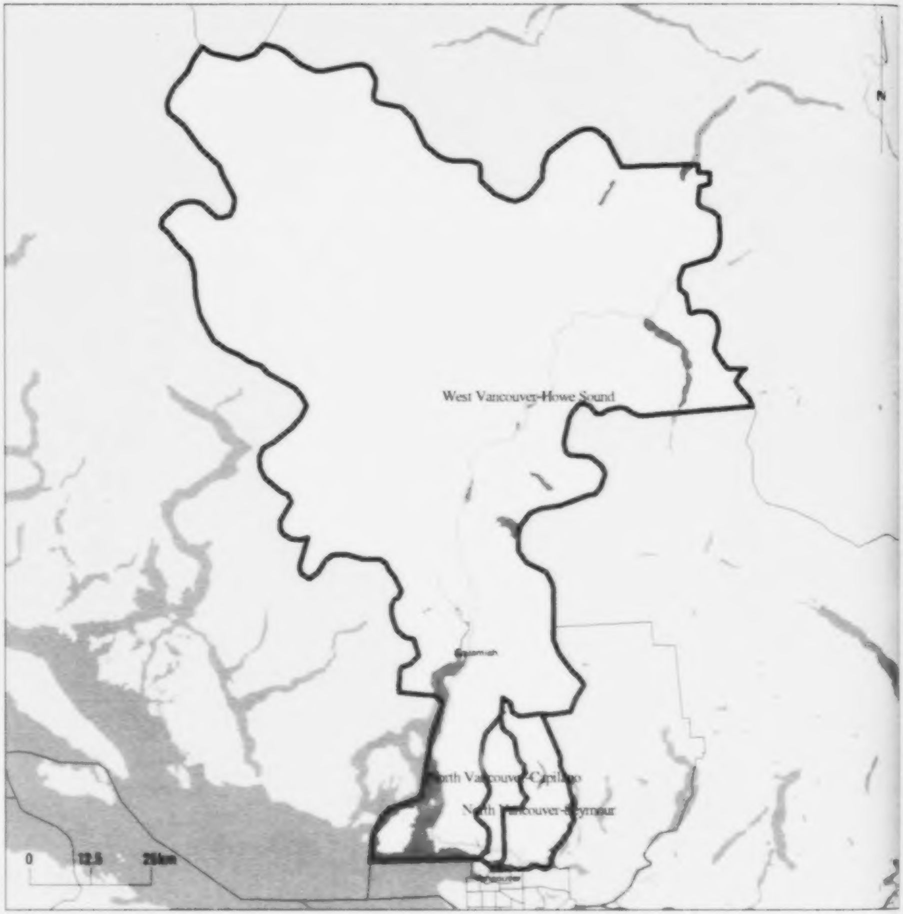
North Shore, Map 1

1. Evolution of the North Shore electoral districts

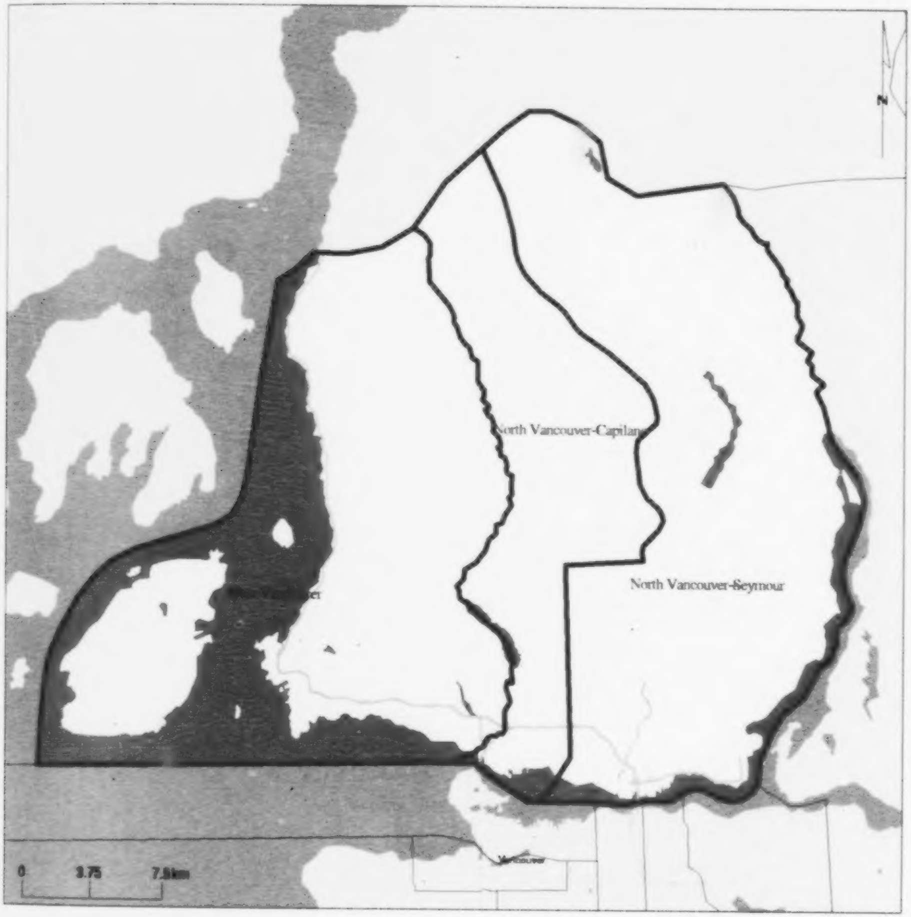
a. The Angus Commission (1966)

The Angus Commission recommended dividing the two-member district of North Vancouver into three single-member districts. North Vancouver–Seymour would extend from Indian Arm in the east to Lonsdale Avenue in the west, North Vancouver–Capilano would extend from Lonsdale Avenue in the east to the Capilano River in the west, and West Vancouver–Howe Sound would extend from the Capilano River in the east to Bowen Island in the west and Pemberton in the north (see North Shore, Map 2).

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations.


N
West Vancouver-Howe Sound
Squamish
North Vancouver-Capilano
North Vancouver-Seymour
0
12.5
25km
Vancouver

North Shore, Map 2


N
North Vancouver-Capilan
North Vancouver-Seymour
Vancouver
0
3.75
7.5km

North Shore, Map 3

b. The Norris Commission (1975)
The Norris Commission recommended retaining the three districts, with some adjustments to bring about a more equitable distribution (see North Shore, Map 3).

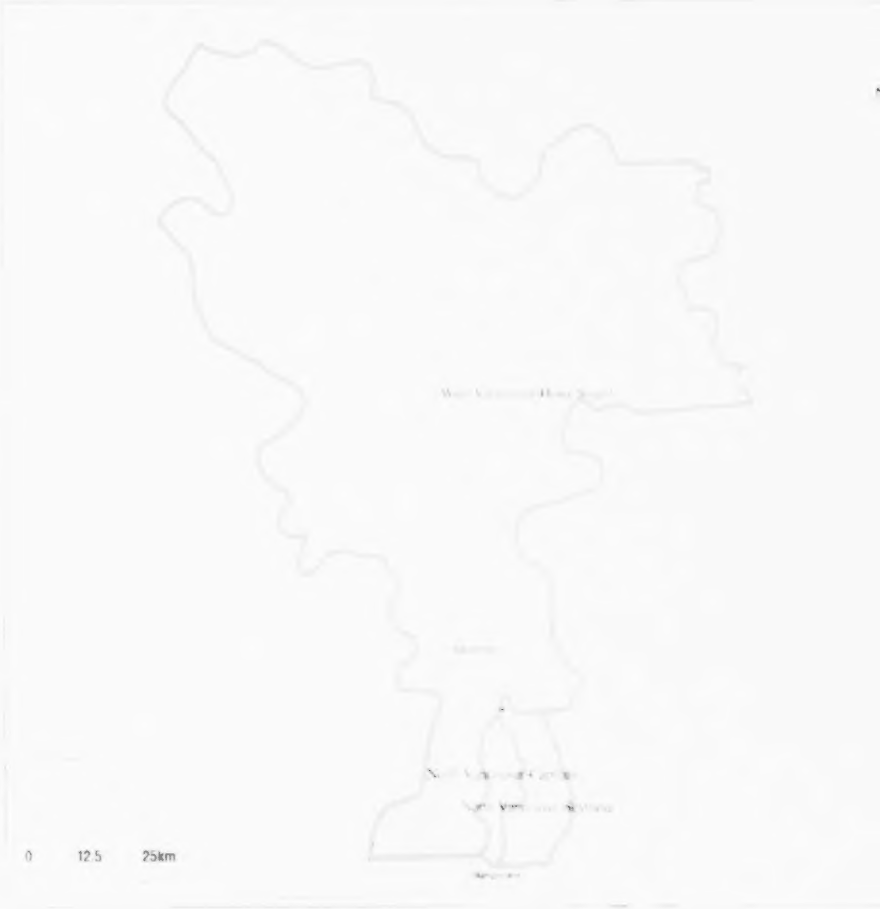
The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.

1. Evolution of the North Shore electoral districts

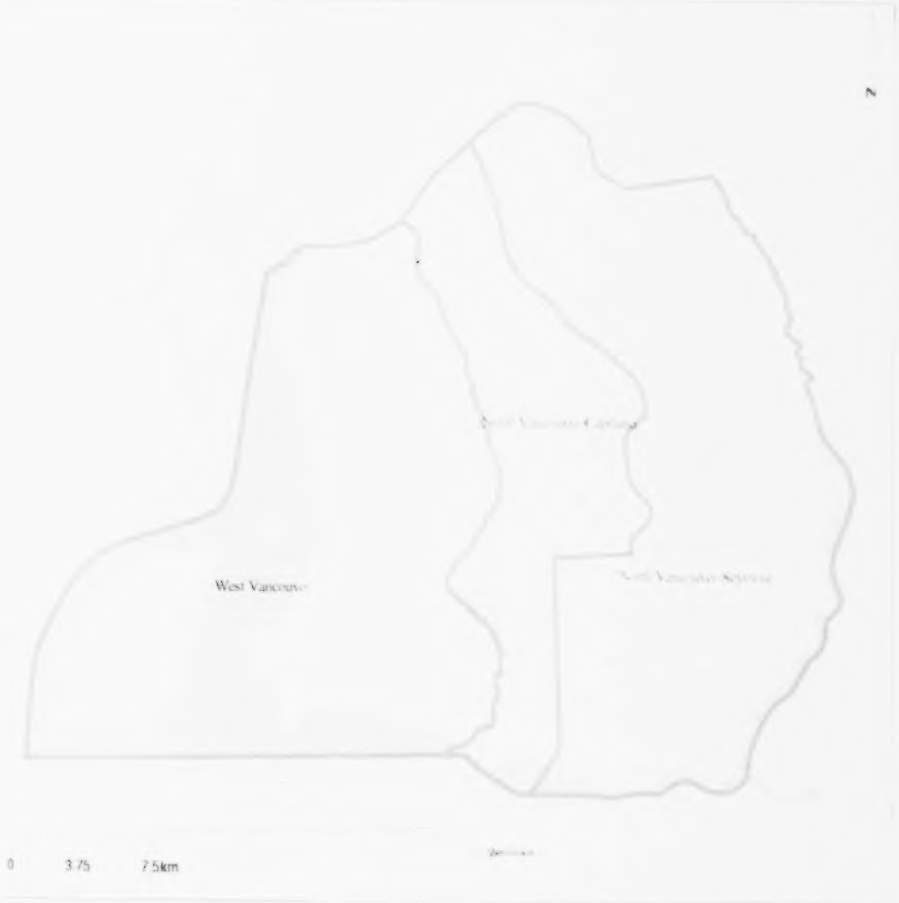
a. The Angus Commission (1966)

The Angus Commission recommended dividing the two-member district of North Vancouver into three single-member districts. North Vancouver–Seymour would extend from Indian Arm in the east to Lonsdale Avenue in the west, North Vancouver–Capilano would extend from Lonsdale Avenue in the east to the Capilano River in the west, and West Vancouver–Howe Sound would extend from the Capilano River in the east to Bowen Island in the west and Pemberton in the north (see North Shore, Map 2).

The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendations.


West Vancouver–Howe Sound
North Vancouver–Capilano
North Vancouver–Seymour
0
12.5
25km

North Shore, Map 2


N
North Vancouver-Capilano
West Vancouver
North Vancouver-Seymour
0
3.75
7.5km

North Shore, Map 3

6. The Norris Commission (1978)

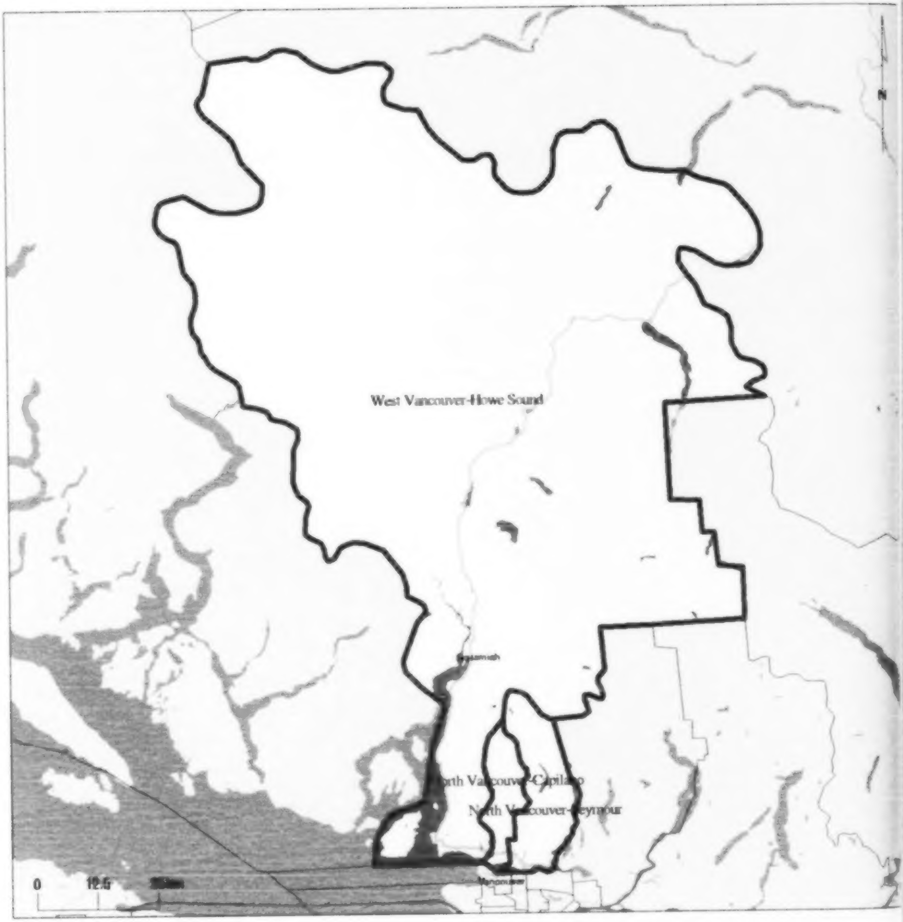
The Norris Commission recommended retaining the three districts, with some adjustments to bring about a more equitable distribution (see North Shore, Map 3).

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt the Norris Commission's recommendations.

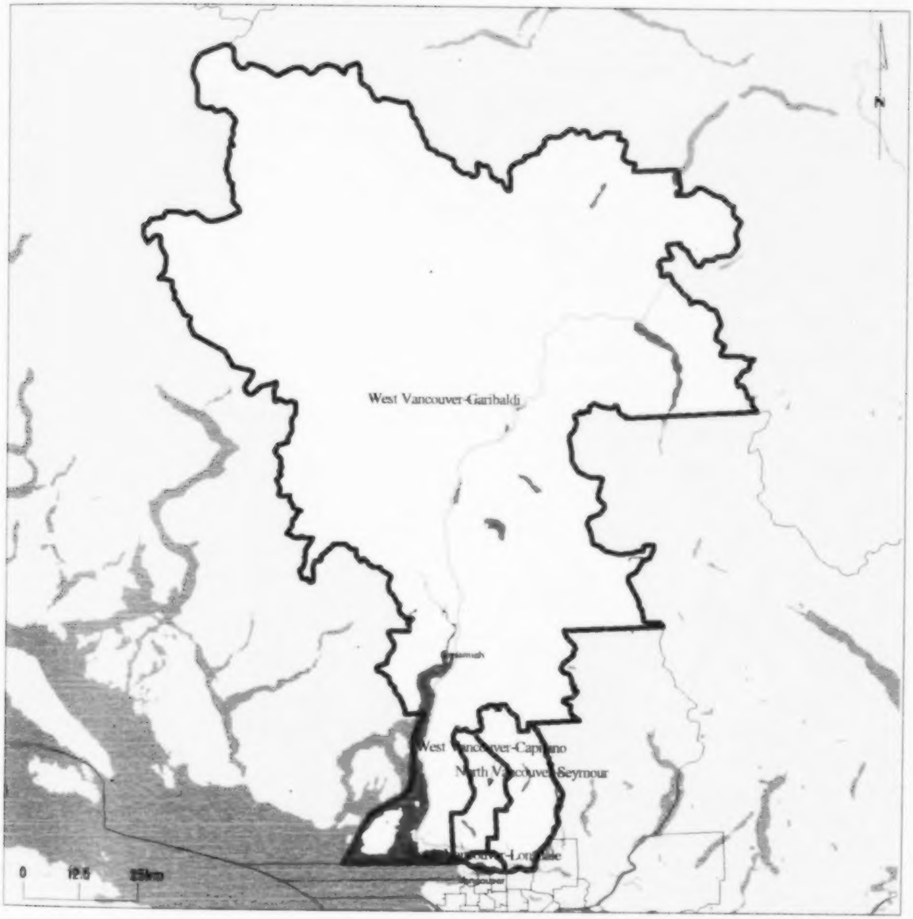
c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt recommended several boundary adjustments on the North Shore (see North Shore, Map 4), which the Legislative Assembly adopted.

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected these districts.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected these districts.


West Vancouver-Howe Sound
Squamish
North Vancouver-Capilano
North Vancouver-Seymour
Vancouver
0
12.5
25km
N

North Shore, Map 4


N
West Vancouver-Garibaldi
Squamish
West Vancouver-Capilano
North Vancouver-Seymour
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Vancouver
0
12.5
25km

North Shore, Map 5

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)

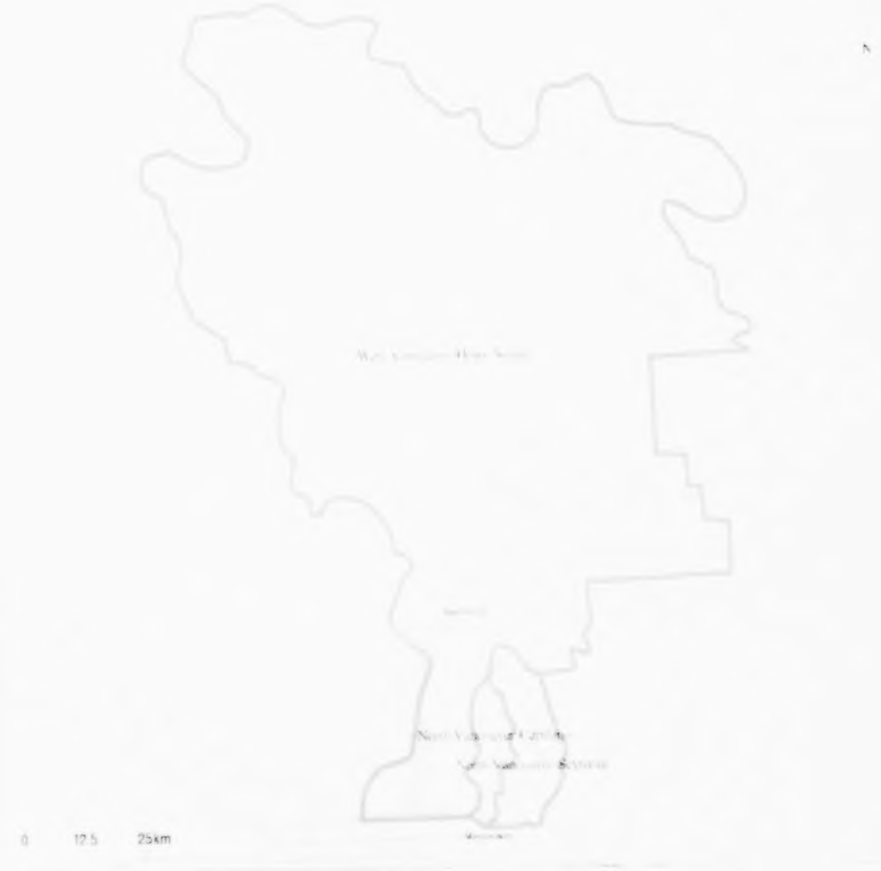
In his interim report Judge Fisher recommended that, because of an increase in population on the North Shore, an additional electoral district be created in North Vancouver (to be called Lonsdale), with boundaries that closely followed the municipal boundaries of the City of North Vancouver. It stretched from the Seymour River in the east, to the Capilano River in the west and to the Upper Levels Highway in the north. He also recommended that the eastern boundary of West Vancouver–Howe Sound be moved farther west, from the Capilano River to 22nd Street.

In his final report, Judge Fisher recommended that the four North Shore districts be called North Vancouver–Seymour, North Vancouver–Lonsdale, West Vancouver–Capilano and West Vancouver–Garibaldi. The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations. (see North Shore, Map 5).

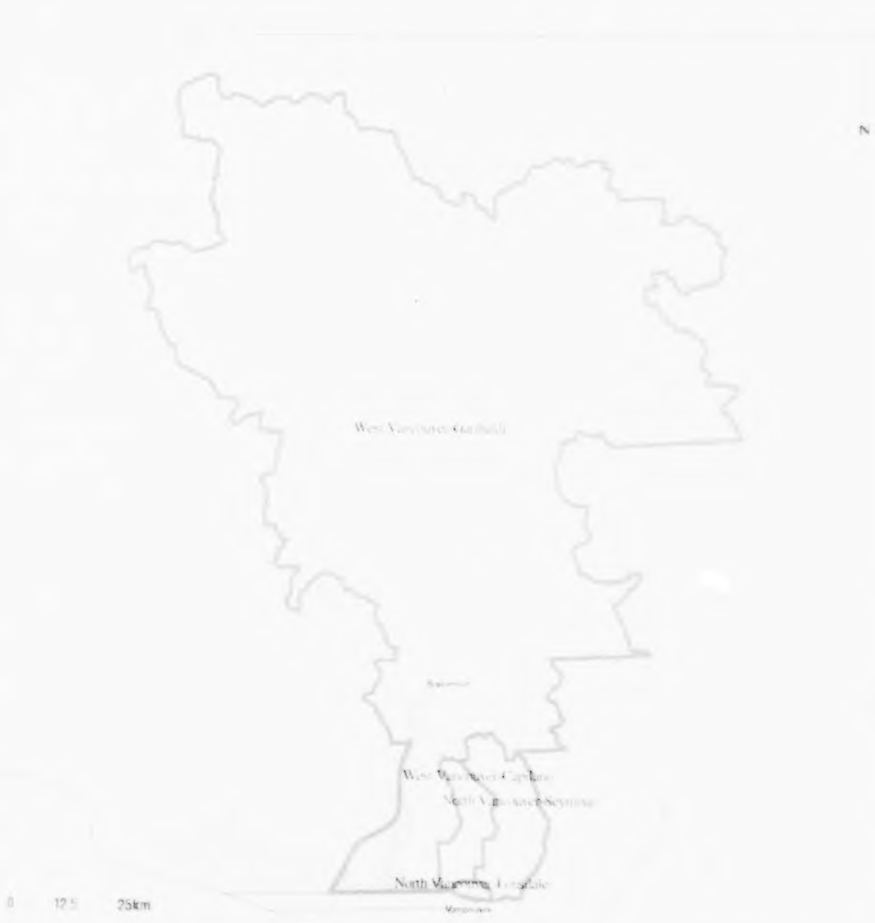
Judge Eckardt recommended several boundary adjustments on the North Shore (see North Shore, Map 4), which the Legislative Assembly adopted.

None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected these districts.

None of the McAdam Commission's recommendations affected these districts.


N
North Vancouver-Capilano
North Vancouver-Seymour
0
12.5
25km

North Shore, Map 4


N
West Vancouver-Garibaldi
West Vancouver-Capilano
North Vancouver-Seymour
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Vancouver
0
12.5
25km

North Shore, Map 5

The Fisher Commission (1988)

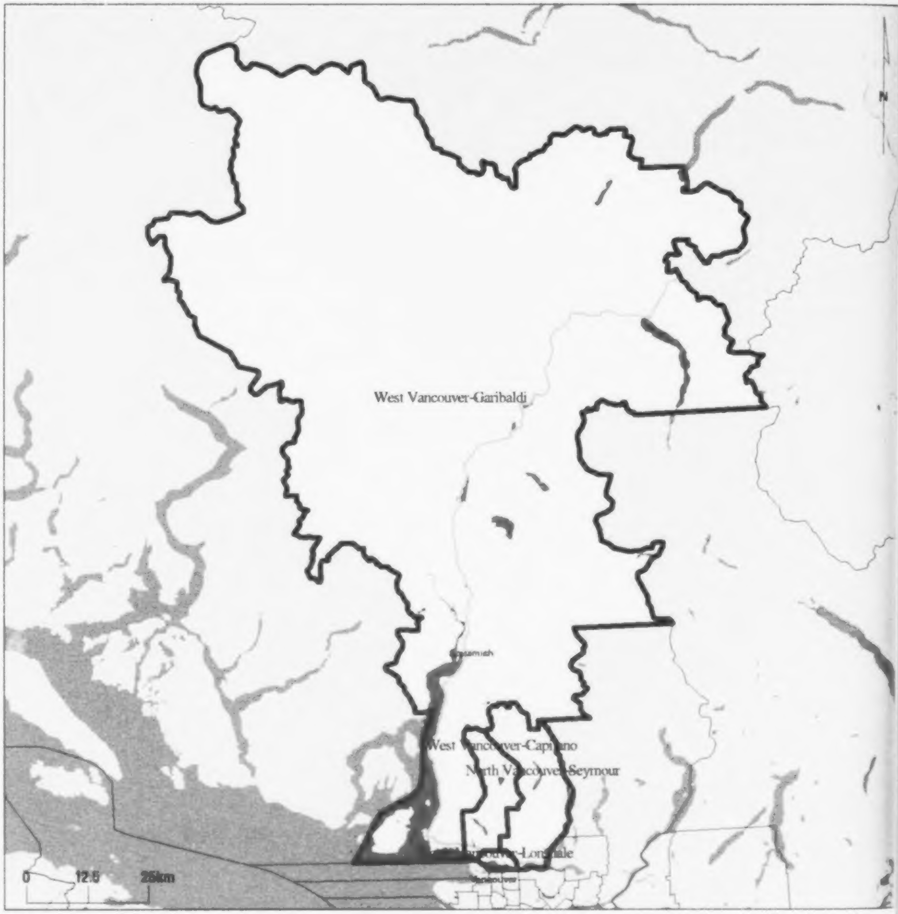
In his interim report Judge Fisher recommended that, because of an increase in population on the North Shore, an additional electoral district be created in North Vancouver (to be called Lonsdale), with boundaries that closely followed the municipal boundaries of the City of North Vancouver. It stretched from the Seymour River in the east, to the Capilano River in the west and to the Upper Levels Highway in the north. He also recommended that the eastern boundary of West Vancouver–Howe Sound be moved farther west, from the Capilano River to 22nd Street.

In his final report, Judge Fisher recommended that the four North Shore districts be called North Vancouver–Seymour, North Vancouver–Lonsdale, West Vancouver–Capilano and West Vancouver–Garibaldi. The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations. (see North Shore, Map 5).

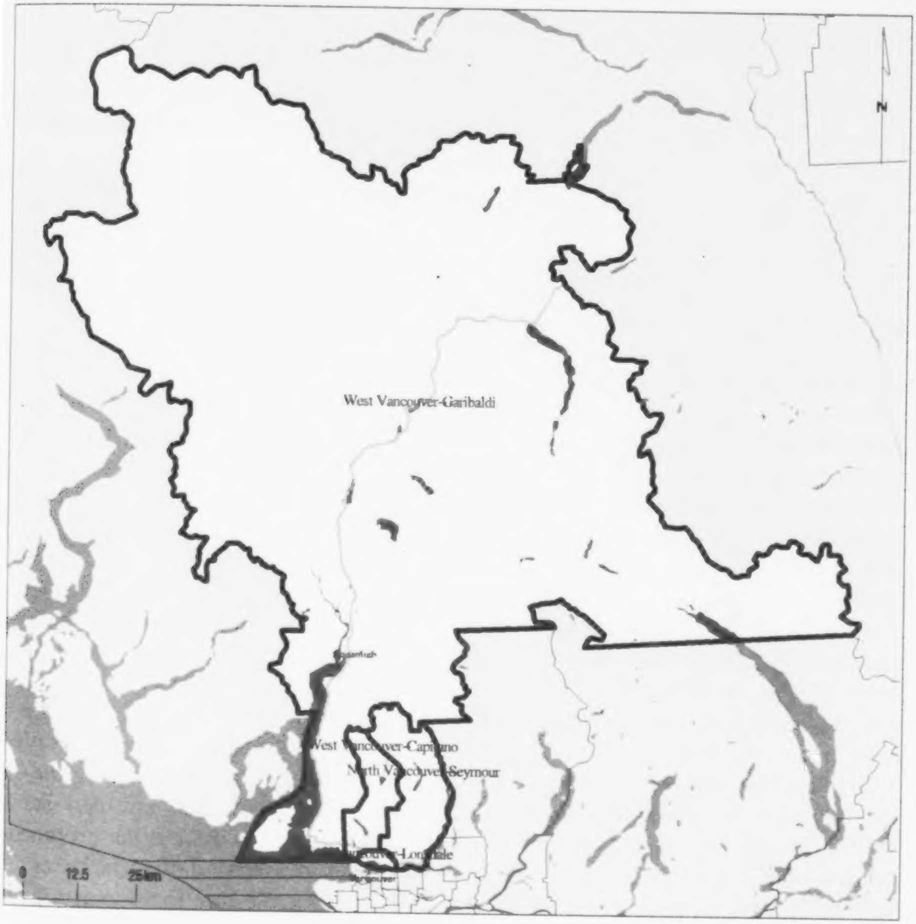
g. The Wood Commission (1999)

The Wood Commission noted that the North Vancouver–Lonsdale boundaries did not follow those of the City of North Vancouver, resulting in portions of that city being apportioned to three different districts. However, no one suggested that this caused significant problems justifying a departure from using Highway 1 as the logical dividing line in this area.

Several submissions suggested that residents of smaller communities within West Vancouver–Garibaldi, such as Bowen Island and Squamish, did not truly have a community interest with the residents of West Vancouver, and that they would be better located in Powell River–Sunshine Coast. However, others pointed out that Vancouver is the accessible major centre for these communities and the place where many residents of Bowen Island, in particular, work. The commission decided against adding further communities to an already large district of widely dispersed and difficult-to-access communities, and recommended no changes to the four North Shore districts (see North Shore, Map 6).


N
West Vancouver-Garibaldi
Squamish
West Vancouver-Capilano
North Vancouver-Seymour
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Vancouver
0
12.5
25km

North Shore, Map 6


N
West Vancouver-Garibaldi
Squamish
West Vancouver-Capilano
North Vancouver-Seymour
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Vancouver
0
12.5
25km

North Shore, Map 7

In its final report (see North Shore, Map 7), the Wood Commission made only one boundary change to the south-eastern boundary of West Vancouver–Garibaldi, to ensure that the small native communities between Harrison Lake and Lillooet Lake would be included in the district, in light of their ties with the Pemberton and Mount Currie areas.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

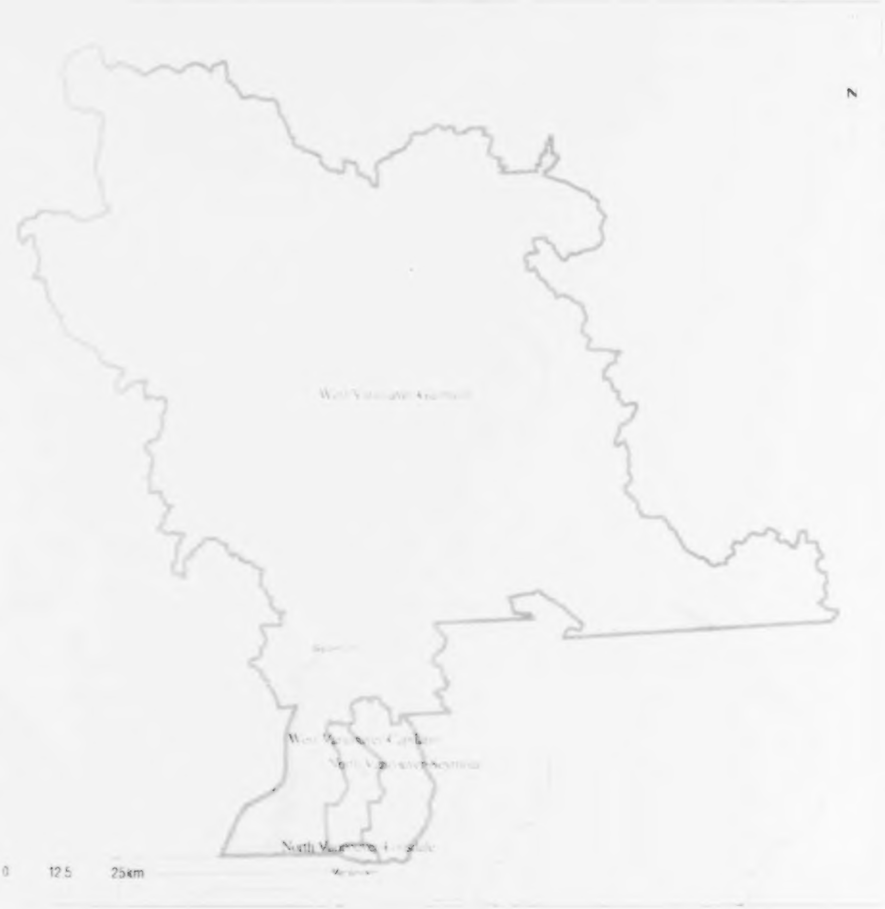
g. The Wood Commission (1999)

The Wood Commission noted that the North Vancouver–Lonsdale boundaries did not follow those of the City of North Vancouver, resulting in portions of that city being apportioned to three different districts. However, no one suggested that this caused significant problems justifying a departure from using Highway 1 as the logical dividing line in this area.

Several submissions suggested that residents of smaller communities within West Vancouver–Garibaldi, such as Bowen Island and Squamish, did not truly have a community interest with the residents of West Vancouver, and that they would be better located in Powell River–Sunshine Coast. However, others pointed out that Vancouver is the accessible major centre for these communities and the place where many residents of Bowen Island, in particular, work. The commission decided against adding further communities to an already large district of widely dispersed and difficult-to-access communities, and recommended no changes to the four North Shore districts (see North Shore, Map 6).

N
West Vancouver–Garibaldi
West Vancouver–Capilano
North Vancouver–Seymour
North Vancouver–Lonsdale
Vancouver
0
12.5
25km

North Shore, Map 6


N
West Vancouver-Garibaldi
West Vancouver-Capilano
North Vancouver-Seymour
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
0
12.5
25km

North Shore, Map 7

In its final report (see North Shore, Map 7), the Wood Commission made only one boundary change to the south-eastern boundary of West Vancouver–Garibaldi, to ensure that the small native communities between Harrison Lake and Lillooet Lake would be included in the district, in light of their ties with the Pemberton and Mount Currie areas.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of the Wood Commission's recommendations.

2. *Our analysis of the North Shore electoral districts*

The area we describe as the North Shore region currently has four electoral districts (see map, page 282.) These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 27):

TABLE 27: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE NORTH SHORE

Electoral District	1996 deviation*	2006 deviation**
North Vancouver–Seymour	+12.8%	+7.2%
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	-2.9%	-2.4%
West Vancouver–Capilano	+2%	-8.8%
West Vancouver–Garibaldi	+1%	+7.6%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

With a total population of 210,163, this area of the province is entitled to its current four electoral districts. Balancing the population among all four electoral districts would result in an average deviation of plus 0.9 percent (based on 79 electoral districts).

It was suggested to us that all of the City of North Vancouver should be included in the Vancouver-Lonsdale electoral district – it is currently spread among three electoral districts. We agree with that suggestion, because it is consistent with our desire to respect municipal boundaries whenever possible.

We also gave consideration to the Squamish First Nation's three North Shore reserves, at Seymour River, Mosquito Creek and Capilano River. Currently, the North Vancouver–Lonsdale boundary (following the Upper Levels Highway) divides the Seymour River reserve in half, and the three reserves are spread among three electoral districts. In our view, it would be preferable for all three of these reserves to be included in one electoral district. To that end, we are proposing that the boundaries of North Vancouver–Lonsdale be extended farther east to include all of the Squamish First Nation's Seymour Reserve, and further west to include all of the same Nation's Capilano Reserve (currently shared with West Vancouver–Capilano) (see map of proposed North Vancouver–Lonsdale electoral district, page 284).

Expanding North Vancouver–Lonsdale in this manner means that it will include some residents of the District of North Vancouver:

- people living west of the City of North Vancouver, and south of Marine Drive; and,
- people living east of the City of North Vancouver, and west of the Upper Levels Highway.

We are also proposing that the eastern boundary be extended eastward of the Upper Levels Highway in an area bounded by Lynn Valley Road, Kirkstone Road and Mountain Highway, so that residents of the City of North Vancouver living east of the highway do not need to drive through another electoral district in order to vote.

Having made those changes, we made several other boundary changes in orde to balance the population among the other three North Shore electoral districts (see maps of three other propose North Shore electoral districts, pages 285 to 287). We kept the population o West Vancouver–Garibaldi somewhat lower, in recognition of the higher-than-average growth that is expected along the Sea to Sky corridor over the next few years. Finally, we propose tha this electoral district be renamed West Vancouver–Sea to Sky.

3. Conclusion

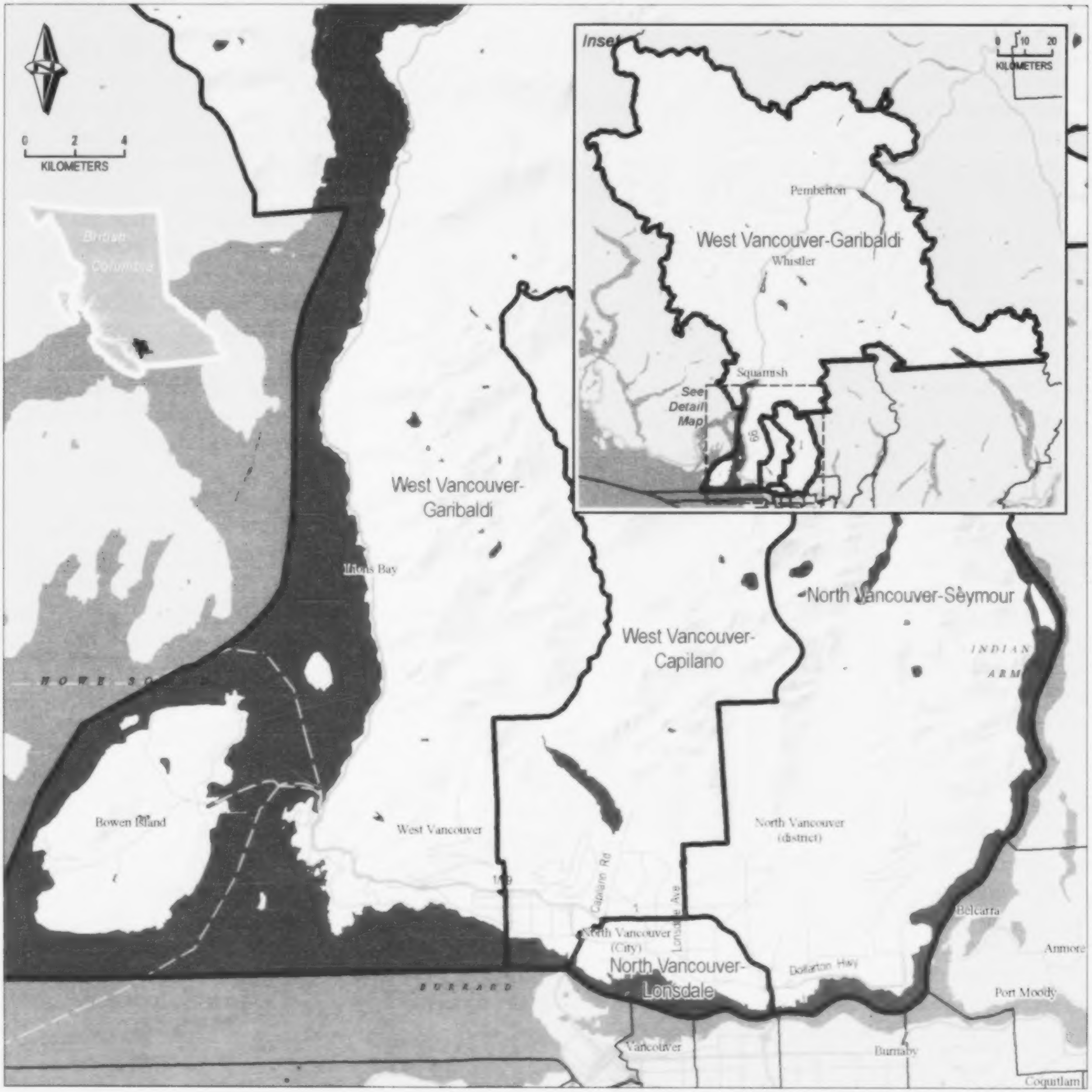
Accordingly, we propose that there be four electoral districts in the North Shore, as follows:

TABLE 28: PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS IN THE NORTH SHORE

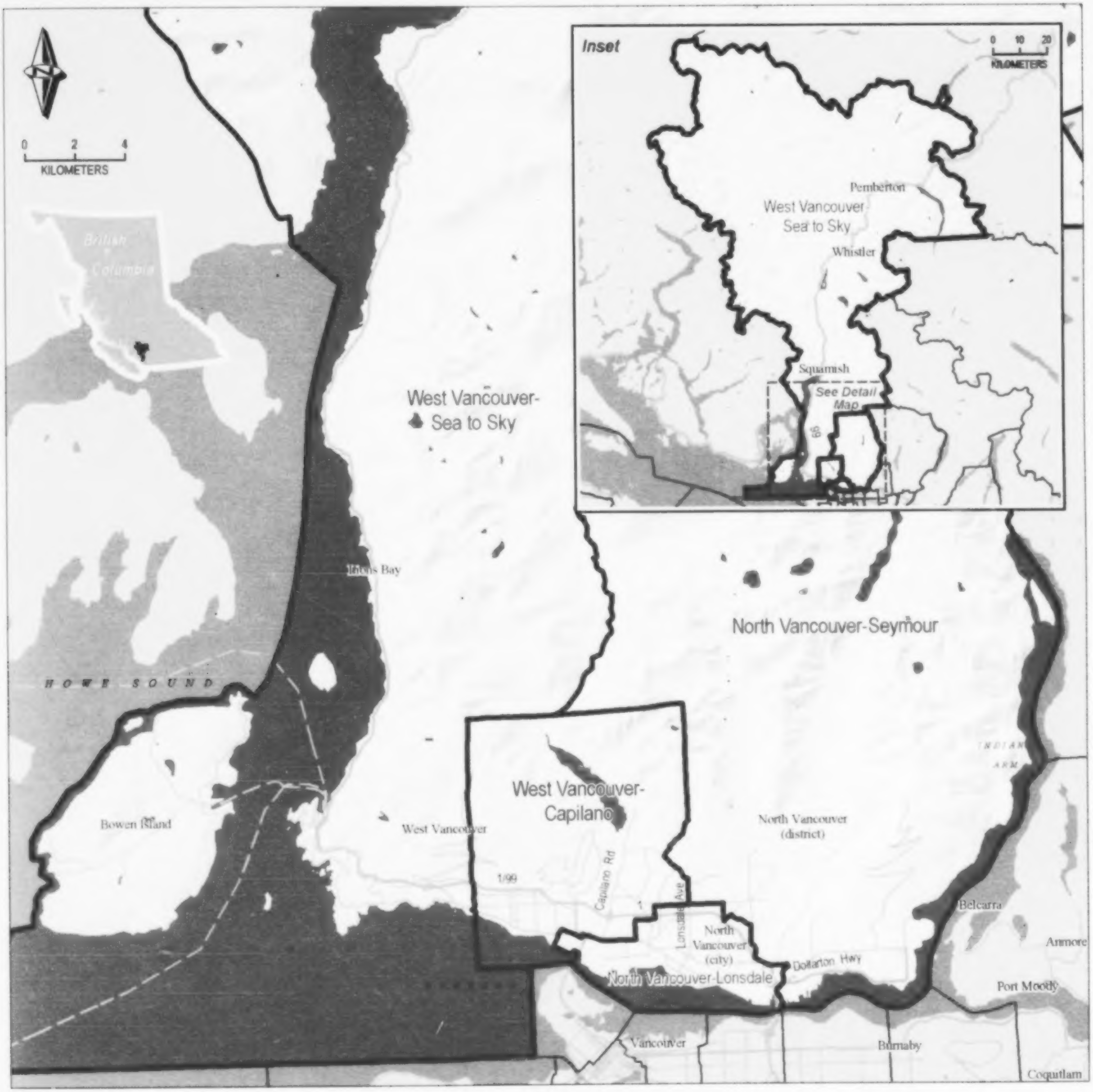
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
North Vancouver–Seymour	395	52,164	+2.7%
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	27	54,600	+7.5%
West Vancouver–Capilano	80	54,238	+6.8%
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	9,613	49,161	-3.2%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

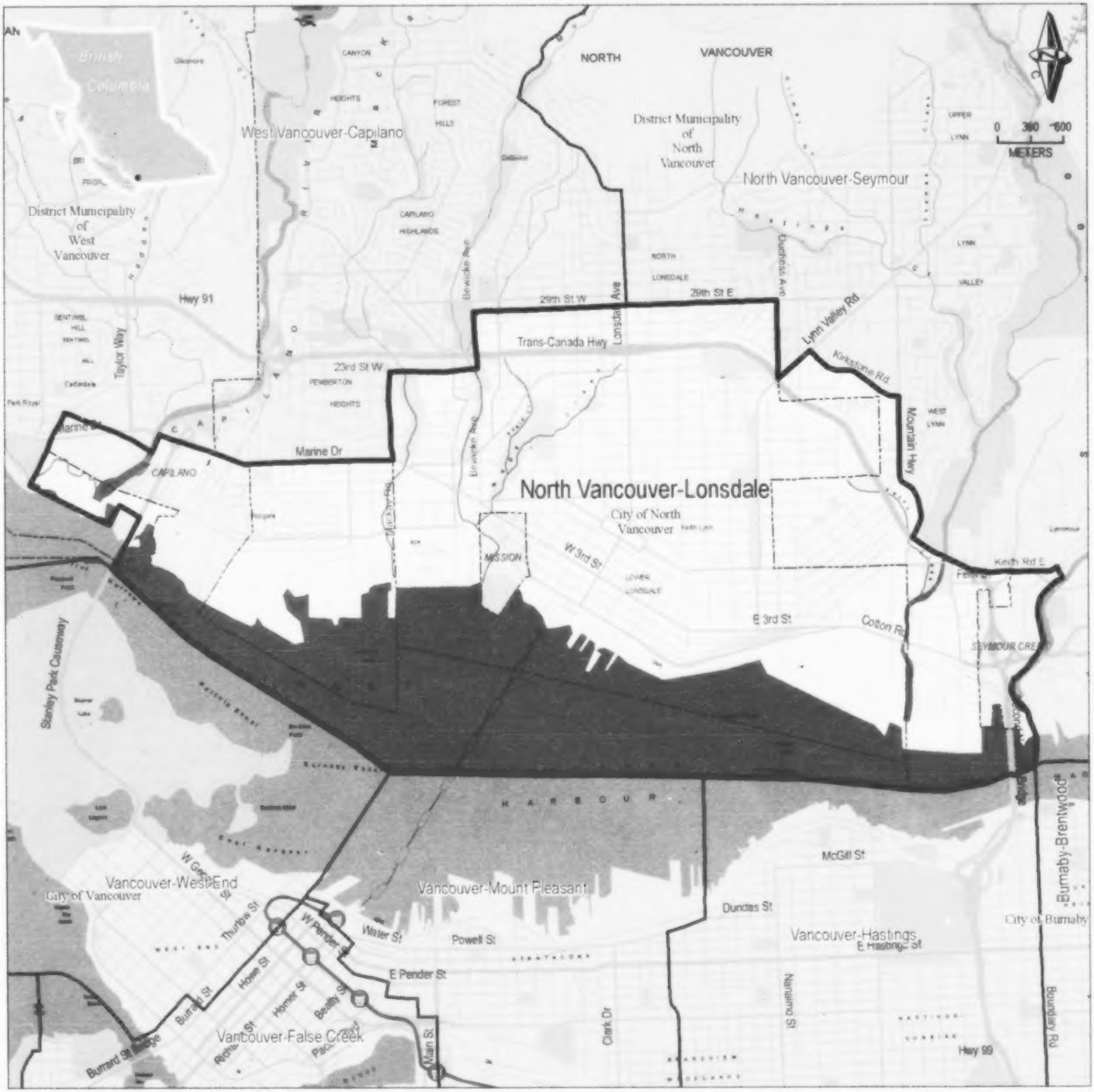
Region: North Shore – Current Electoral Districts


0 2 4
KILOMETERS
British Columbia
Inset
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Pemberton
West Vancouver-Garibaldi
Whistler
Squamish
See Detail Map
99
West Vancouver-Garibaldi
Lions Bay
North Vancouver-Seymour
West Vancouver-Capilano
INDIAN ARM
HOWE SOUND
Bowen Island
West Vancouver
North Vancouver (district)
99
Capilano Rd
Lonsdale Ave
1
North Vancouver (City)
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Dollarton Hwy
Belcarra
Anmore
Port Moody
BURRARD
Vancouver
Burnaby
Coquitlam

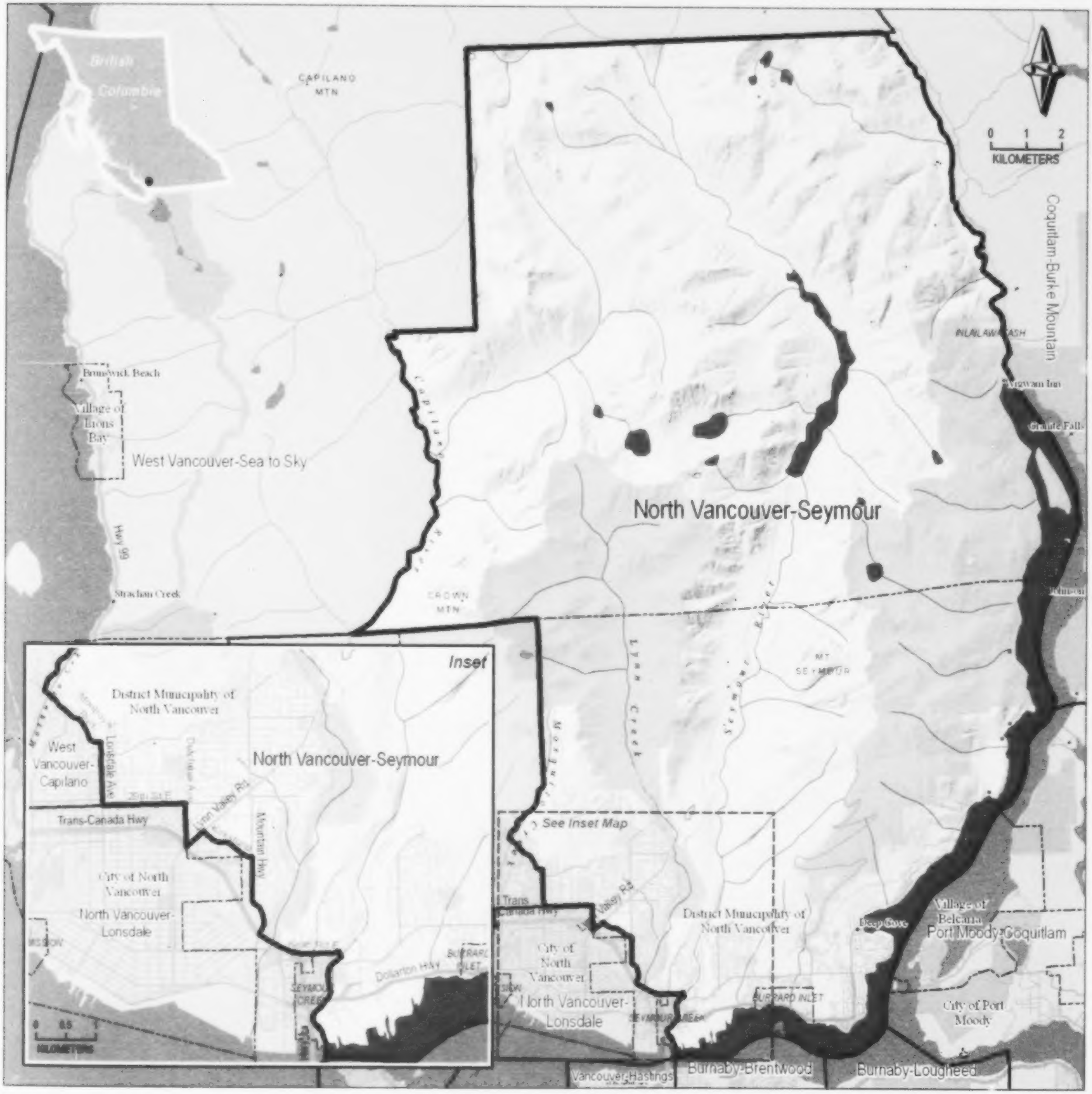
Region: North Shore – Proposed Electoral Districts


0 2 4
KILOMETERS
British Columbia
Inset
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Pemberton
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
Whistler
Squamish
See Detail Map
99
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
Lions Bay
North Vancouver-Seymour
HOWE SOUND
INDIAN ARM
West Vancouver-Capilano
Bowen Island
West Vancouver
North Vancouver (district)
1/99
Capilano Rd
Lonsdale Ave
1
Belcarra
North Vancouver (city)
Anmore
Dollarton Hwy
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Port Moody
Vancouver
Burnaby
Coquitlam

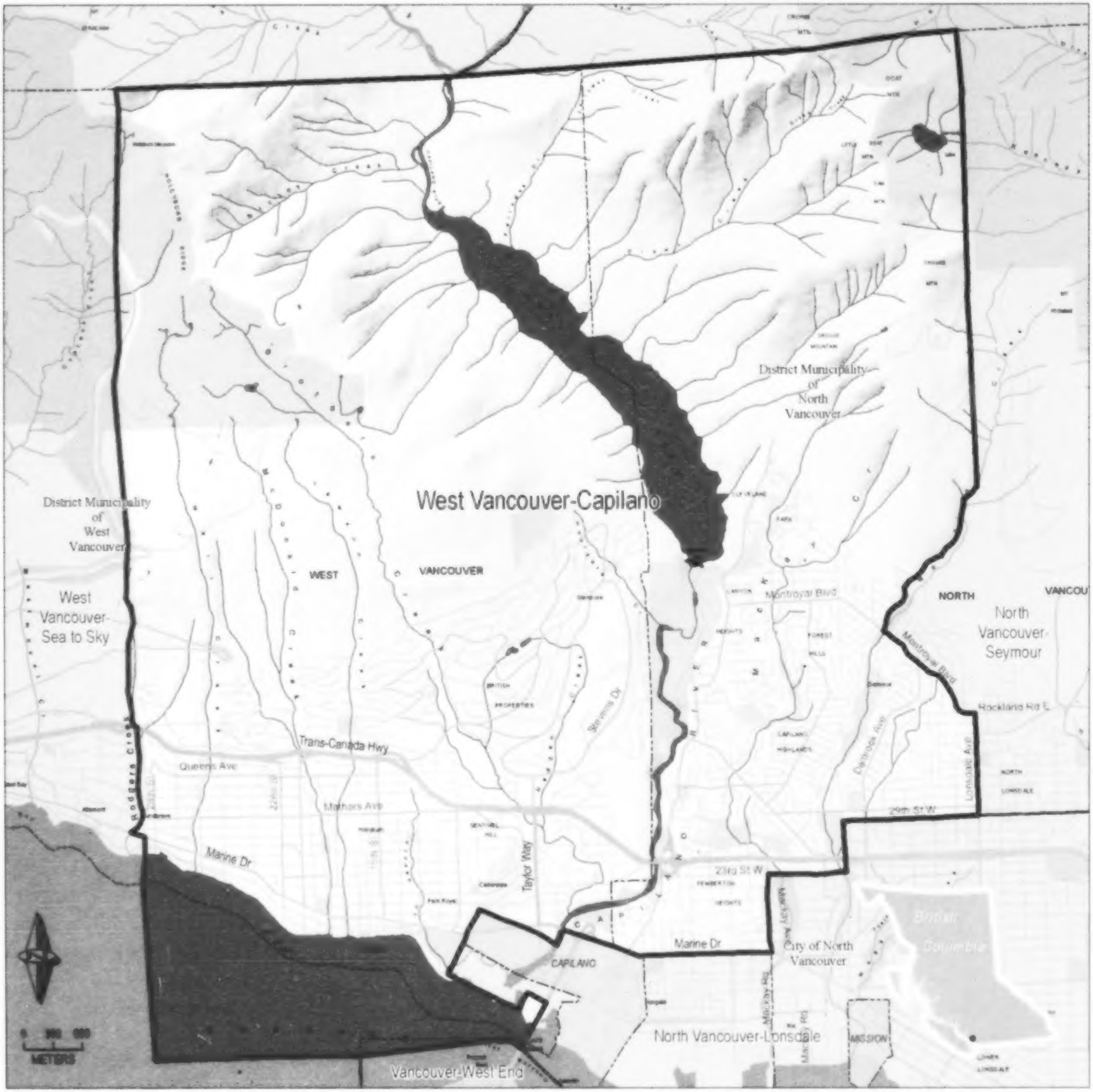
Region: North Shore – Proposed North Vancouver-Lonsdale Electoral District


British Columbia
NORTH
VANCOUVER
0 300 600
METERS
West Vancouver-Capilano
District Municipality of North Vancouver
North Vancouver-Seymour
District Municipality of West Vancouver
Hwy 91
Taylor Way
29th St W
29th St E
Lonsdale Ave
Duchess Ave
Lynn Valley Rd
Trans-Canada Hwy
23rd St W
Kirkstone Rd
Mountain Hwy
Marine Dr
CAPILANO
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
City of North Vancouver
MISSION
W 3rd St
E 3rd St
Cotton Rd
Keith Rd E
SEYMOUR CREEK
Stanley Park Causeway
HARBOUR
McGill St
Dundas St
Burnaby-Brentwood
City of Burnaby
Vancouver-West End
City of Vancouver
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Vancouver-Hastings
E Hastings St
Thurlow St
W Pender St
Water St
Powell St
E Pender St
Howe St
Homer St
Beatty St
Burrard St
Burrard St Bridge
Vancouver-False Creek
Main St
Clark Dr
Nanaimo St
Hwy 99
Boundary Rd

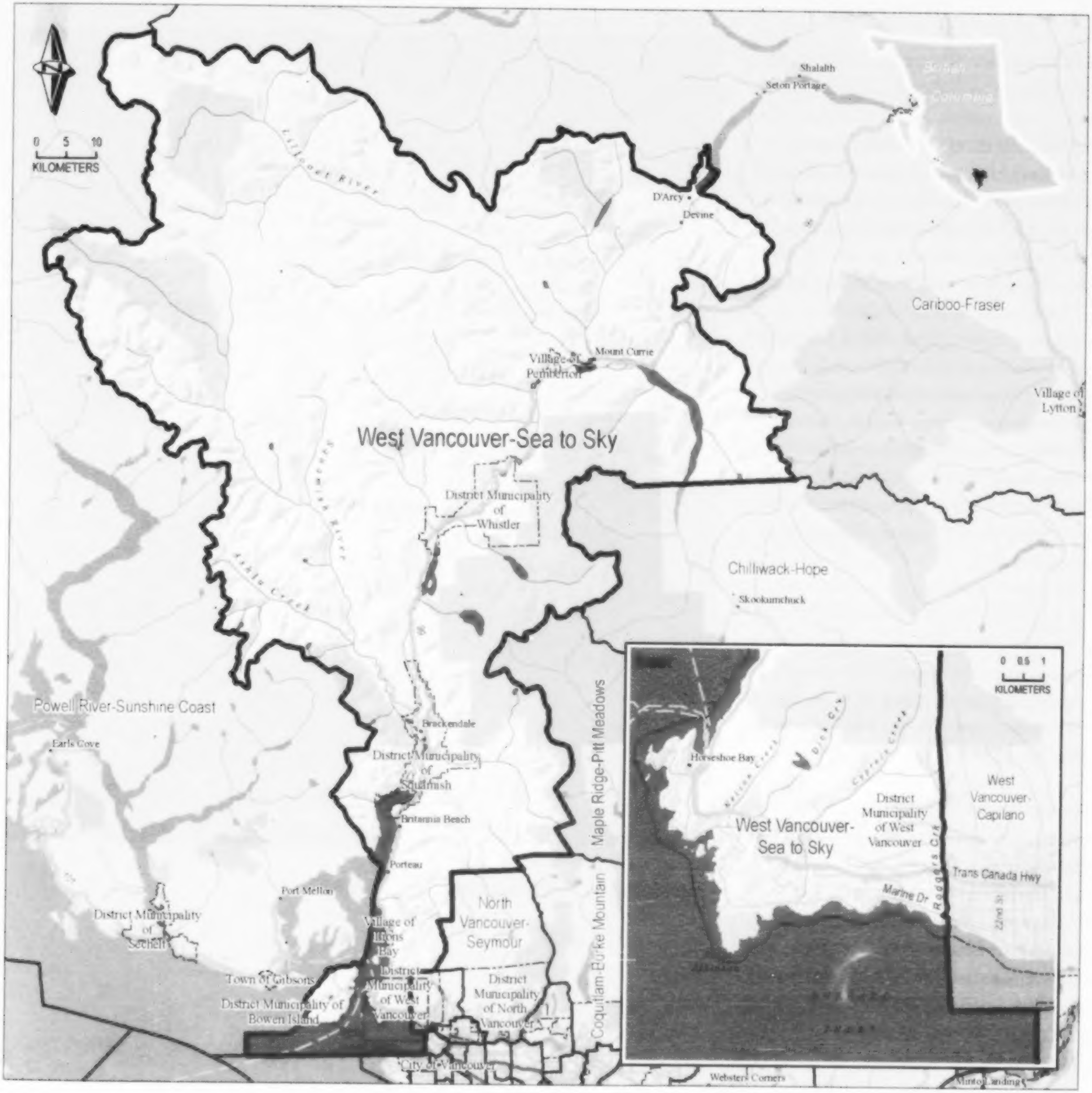
Region: North Shore – Proposed North Vancouver–Seymour Electoral District


British Columbia
CAPILANO MTN
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
INLAILAWATASH
Wigwam Inn
Granite Falls
Brunswick Beach
Village of Lions Bay
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
Capilano River
North Vancouver-Seymour
Hwy 99
Strachan Creek
CROWN MTN
Lynn Creek
Seymour River
MT SEYMOUR
Mosquito Creek
See Inset Map
Trans Canada Hwy
Lynn Valley Rd
District Municipality of North Vancouver
City of North Vancouver
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
SEYMOUR CREEK
BURRARD INLET
Deep Cove
Village of Belcarra
Port Moody-Coquitlam
City of Port Moody
Vancouver-Hastings
Burnaby-Brentwood
Burnaby-Lougheed
Inset
District Municipality of North Vancouver
West Vancouver-Capilano
Lonsdale Ave
29th St E
Lynn Valley Rd
Mountain Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
City of North Vancouver
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Dollarton Hwy
BURRARD INLET
SEYMOUR CREEK
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS

Region: North Shore – Proposed West Vancouver–Capilano Electoral District


West Vancouver-Capilano
District Municipality of West Vancouver
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
District Municipality of North Vancouver
WEST
VANCOUVER
NORTH
VANCOU
North Vancouver-Seymour
Montroyal Blvd
Rockland Rd E
Lonsdale Ave
29th St W
23rd St W
Delbrook Ave
Stevens Dr
Trans-Canada Hwy
Queens Ave
Mathers Ave
Marine Dr
Taylor Way
Rodgers Creek
CAPILANO
Marine Dr
Mackay Rd
City of North Vancouver
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
MISSION
Vancouver-West End
British Columbia
METERS

Region: North Shore – Proposed West Vancouver–Sea to Sky Electoral District

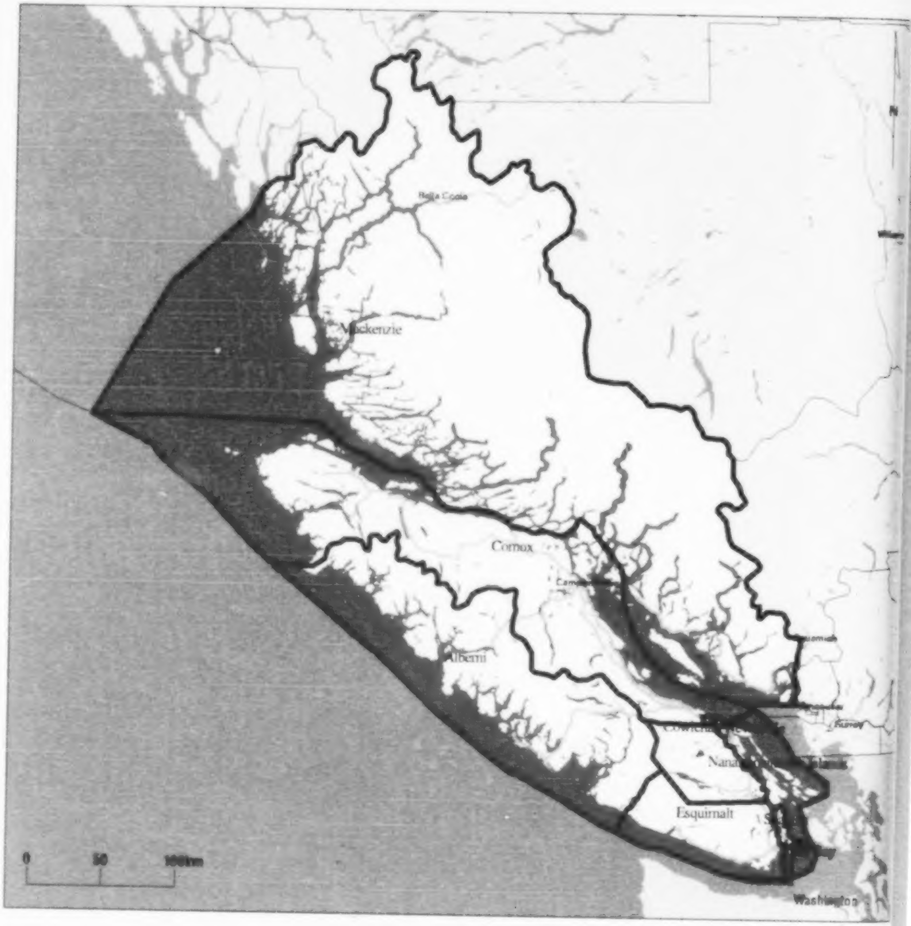

0 5 10
KILOMETERS
Lillooet River
Shalalth
Seton Portage
British Columbia
D'Arcy
Devine
Cariboo-Fraser
Village of Pemberton
Mount Currie
Village of Lytton
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
Squamish River
District Municipality of Whistler
Ashlu Creek
Chilliwack-Hope
Skookumchuck
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Earls Cove
Brackendale
District Municipality of Squamish
Britannia Beach
Porteau
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Port Mellon
District Municipality of Sechelt
Village of Lions Bay
North Vancouver-Seymour
Town of Gibsons
District Municipality of West Vancouver
District Municipality of North Vancouver
District Municipality of Bowen Island
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
City of Vancouver
Websters Corners
Minto Landing
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
Horseshoe Bay
Nelson Creek
Eagle Creek
Cypress Creek
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
District Municipality of West Vancouver
West Vancouver-Capilano
Trans Canada Hwy
Marine Dr
Rodgers Crk
22nd St

N. Vancouver Island and South Coast

Most previous electoral boundaries commissions treated the current Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district (formerly known as Mackenzie) as a separate region, not part of the North Shore and not part of Vancouver Island.

Later in this report (Part 10 – Proposed BC-STV electoral system boundaries) we will be proposing that the current Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district be grouped together with the three northern Vancouver Island electoral districts, to form a four-member North Island–South Coast BC-STV electoral district.

For that reason, we have decided to group the current Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district with the Vancouver Island districts, as we develop our proposals for SMP electoral districts for this area of the province.



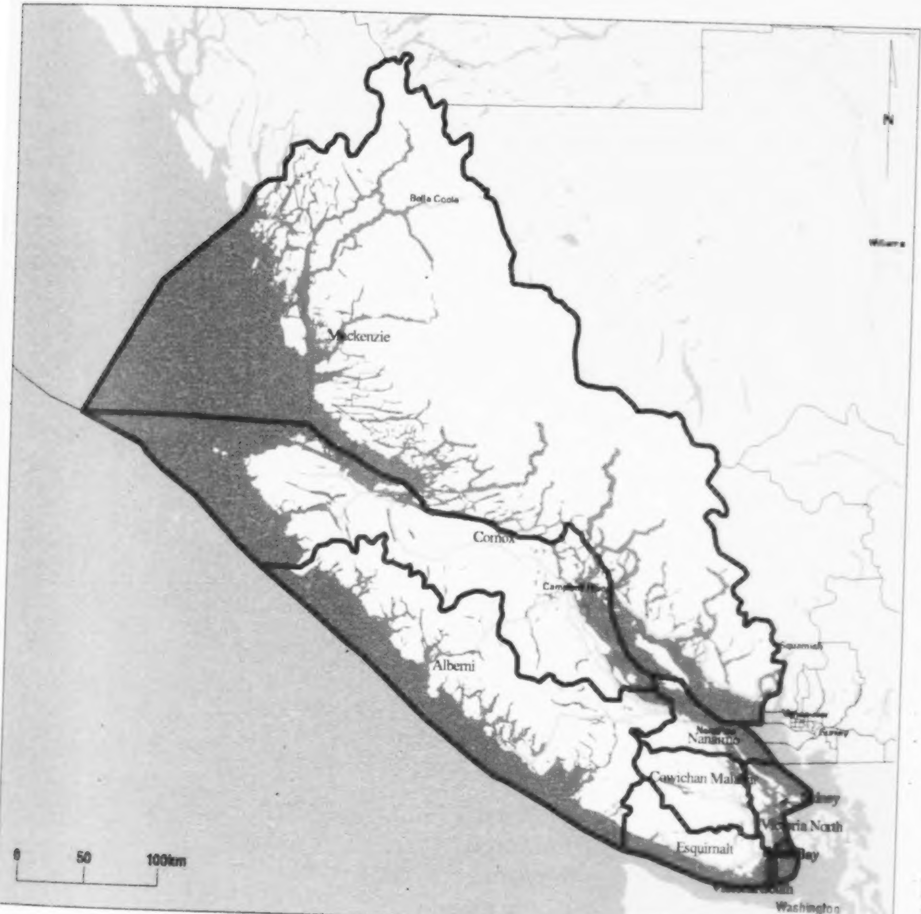
Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 1

1. Evolution of the Vancouver Island and South Coast electoral districts

Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, there were eight electoral districts on Vancouver Island (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 1). And, since Victoria was a three-seat riding, there were 10 MLAs on the Island, as follows:

- North Island – Comox and Alberni,
- Central Island – Cowichan-Newcastle and Nanaimo and the Islands,
- Capital Region – Saanich, Oak Bay, Victoria (3) and Esquimalt.

In addition, there was one South Coast electoral district on the Mainland, known as Mackenzie.


N
Bella Coola
Mackenzie
Comox
Campbell River
Squamish
Alberni
Surrey
Nanaimo
Cowichan Malahat
Sidney
Victoria North
Oak Bay
Esquimalt
Victoria South
Washington
0
50
100km

Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 2

a. The Angus Commission (1966)

The commission concluded that the mainland electoral district of Mackenzie should be grouped with the northern part of Vancouver Island as constituting a single region:

> The reason is that, sooner or later, one or more electoral districts seem likely to comprise both Island and mainland territory as a proposed regional council district already does. Proper and effective representation of the people of this region [south to the Malahat] requires five members in the Legislative Assembly, as at present.

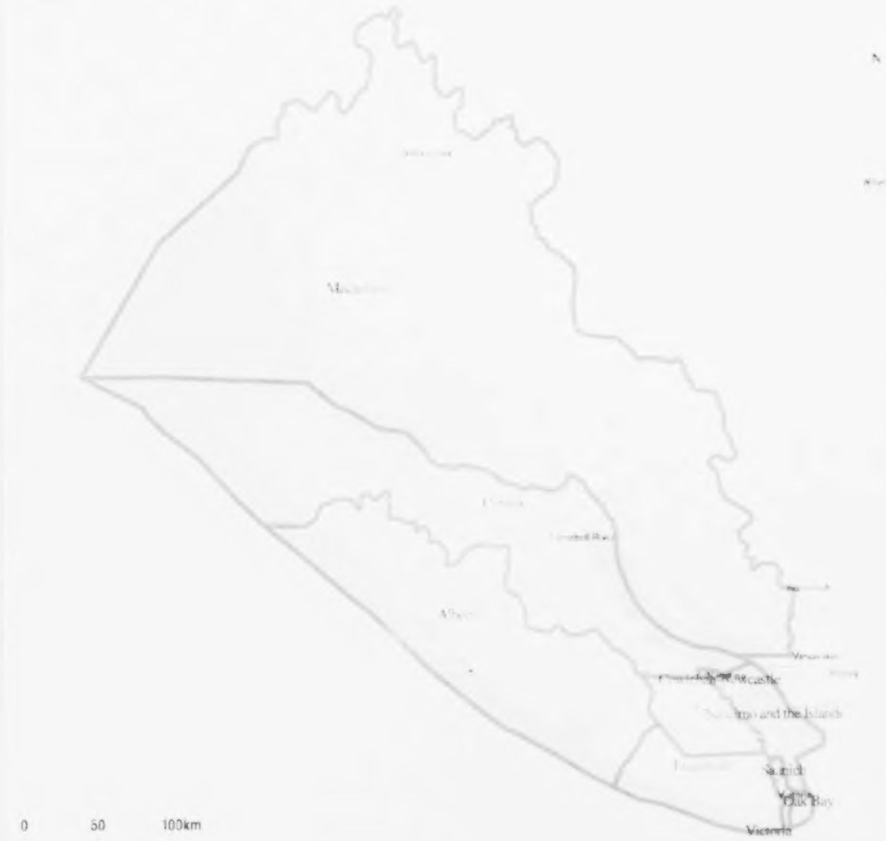
It recommended that Mackenzie retain its existing boundaries, except that Lasqueti Island should be transferred to Nanaimo, and Bowen Island and Woodfibre should be transferred to the proposed new district of West Vancouver–Howe Sound. The commission decided to keep Bella Coola and Ocean Falls in Mackenzie, even though they had no close community interest with

N. Vancouver Island and South Coast

Most previous electoral boundaries commissions treated the current Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district (formerly known as Mackenzie) as a separate region, not part of the North Shore and not part of Vancouver Island.

Later in this report (Part 10 – Proposed BC-STV electoral system boundaries) we will be proposing that the current Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district be grouped together with the three northern Vancouver Island electoral districts, to form a four-member North Island–South Coast BC-STV electoral district.

For that reason, we have decided to group the current Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district with the Vancouver Island districts, as we develop our proposals for SMP electoral districts for this area of the province.



Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 1

Immediately prior to the work of the 1966 Angus Commission, there were eight electoral districts on Vancouver Island (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 1). And, since Victoria was

N
Malahat
Sidney
Victoria North
Oak Bay
Victoria South
0
50
100km

Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 2

a three seat riding, there were 10 MLAs on the Island, as follows:

- North Island – Comox and Alberni,
- Central Island – Cowichan-Newcastle and Nanaimo and the Islands,
- Capital Region – Saanich, Oak Bay, Victoria (3) and Esquimalt.

In addition, there was one South Coast electoral district on the Mainland, known as Mackenzie.

The commission concluded that the mainland electoral district of Mackenzie should be grouped with the northern part of Vancouver Island as constituting a single region:

> The reason is that, sooner or later, one or more electoral districts seem likely to comprise both Island and mainland territory as a proposed regional council district already does. Proper and effective representation of the people of this region [south to the Malahat] requires five members in the Legislative Assembly, as at present.

It recommended that Mackenzie retain its existing boundaries, except that Lasqueti Island should be transferred to Nanaimo, and Bowen Island and Woodfibre should be transferred to the proposed new district of West Vancouver–Howe Sound. The commission decided to keep Bella Coola and Ocean Falls in Mackenzie, even though they had no close community interest with other points. There was no complaint at the public meeting in Powell River that the absence of roads in the northern half of the district made the task of the MLA excessively difficult (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 2).

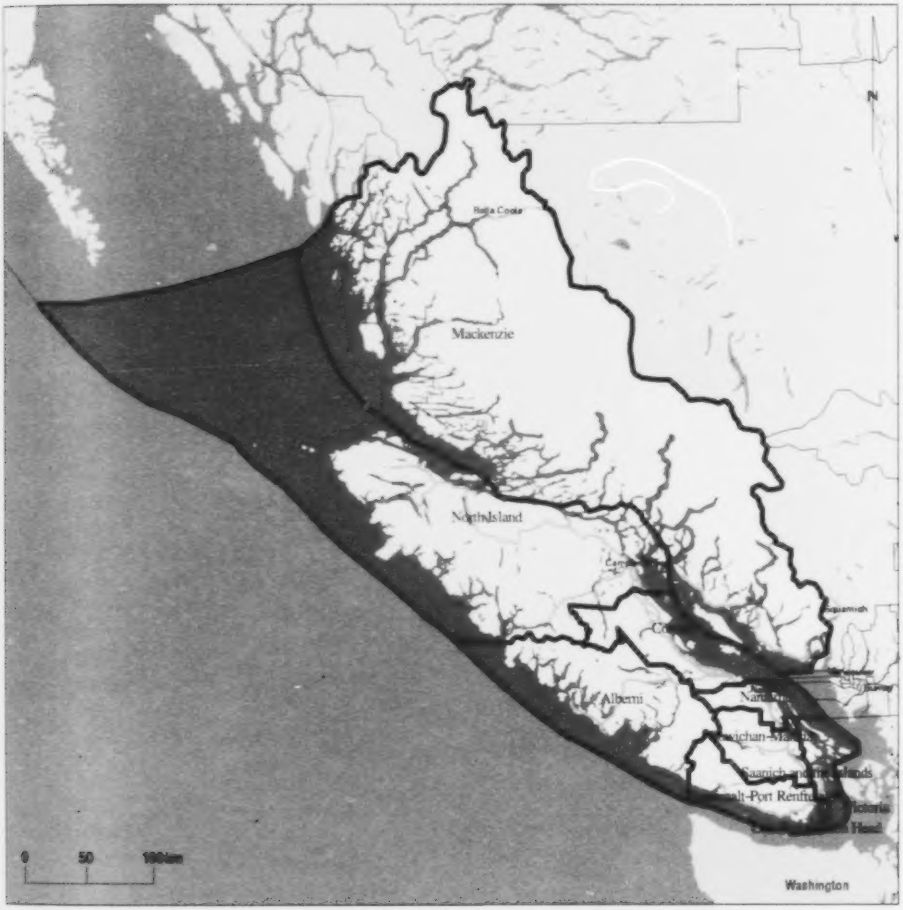
The commission considered the suggestion that an additional district be added to the northern Vancouver Island/ Mackenzie region on the basis of local convenience, but ultimately rejected an increase because the combined population counts did not warrant it. Increasing representation in this area would mean reducing it somewhere else.

With respect to the four Vancouver Island electoral districts north of the Malahat, the commission proposed as follows, moving from north to south:

- Comox – in order to reduce its population, its southern boundary should be moved north to Bowser.
- Alberni – this district should be enlarged, by absorbing territory from the Comox district, and by transferring Clo-oose (part of the West Coast Trail) from Esquimalt to Alberni.
- Nanaimo and the Islands – this district should be expanded to the north to absorb some territory from Comox and to the south to absorb some territory from Cowichan-Newcastle. Lasqueti Island should be transferred from Mackenzie (because of ease of communication), and all the other southern Gulf Islands except Gabriola and Valdez should be transferred to Cowichan-Newcastle and Saanich. The district should be renamed Nanaimo.
- Cowichan-Newcastle – this district should be expanded in the south to include Mill Bay and the Malahat, as well as Thetis and Kuper Islands, and should be renamed Cowichan-Malahat.

With respect to Greater Victoria, which had six MLAs in four electoral districts, the commission concluded that it should be reduced to five single-member ridings, to be called Sidney, Oak Bay, North Victoria, South Victoria and Esquimalt. Although all these electoral districts bore the names of local municipalities, in every case there was some municipal boundary crossover.

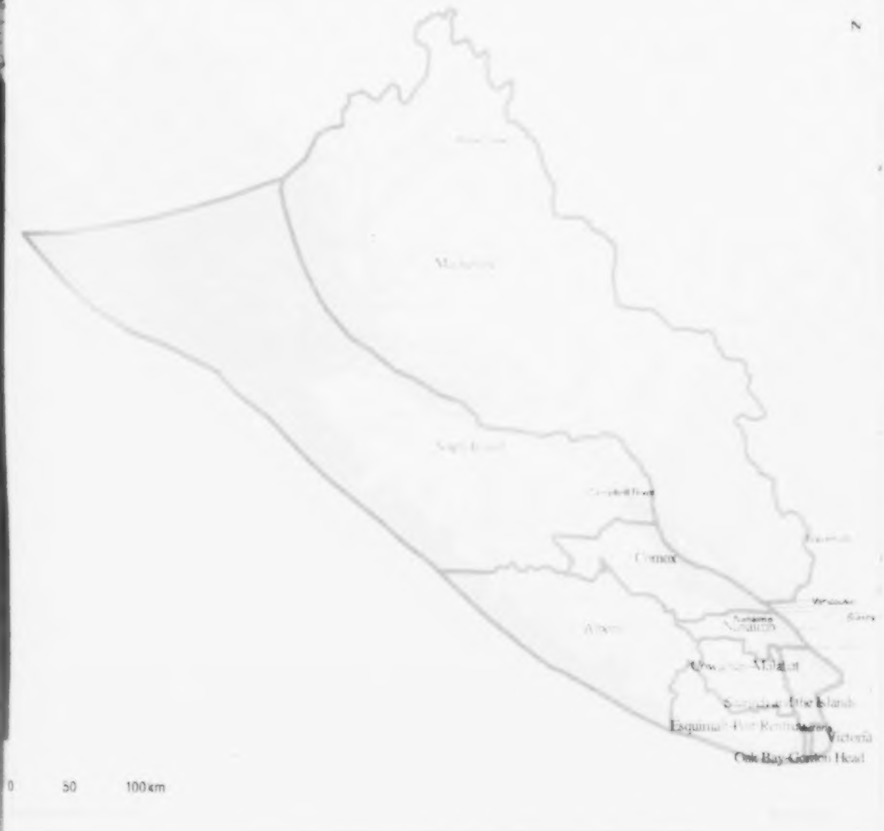
The Legislative Assembly adopted the Angus Commission's recommendation that there be nine MLAs on the Island and one on the South Coast, but made several name and representation changes. It retained the name Cowichan-Newcastle, and it changed Saanich to Saanich and the Islands. It also restored Victoria to a single electoral district, electing two MLAs.


N
Bella Coola
Mackenzie
North Island
Alberni
Squamish
Victoria
Washington
0
50
100km

Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 3

b. The Norris Commission (1975)
The commission recommended (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 3) that the number of seats on the Island be increased from nine to 10 by the addition of a North Island riding, which would come as far south as the Oyster River on the east coast (just south of Campbell River), and as far south as Nootka Sound on the west coast. The commission also proposed renaming Oak Bay as Oak Bay–Gordon Head, and Esquimalt as Esquimalt–San Juan. On the Mainland, it proposed changing the name of Mackenzie to Mackenzie–Howe Sound.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt any of the Norris Commission's recommendations.

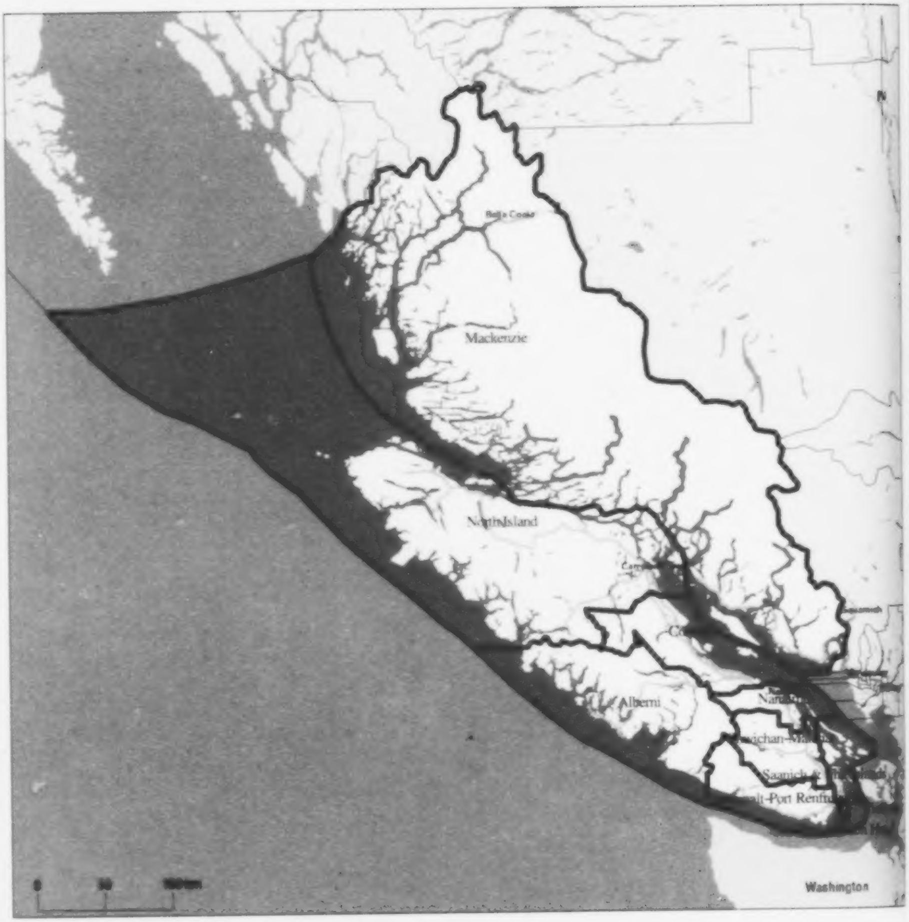

N
Campbell River
Comox
Alberni
Nanaimo
Vancouver
Cowichan–Malahat
Saanich and the Islands
Esquimalt–Port Renfrew
Victoria
Oak Bay–Gordon Head
0
50
100 km

Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 3

[illegible]

The commission recommended (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 3) that the number of seats on the Island be increased from nine to 10 by the addition of a North Island riding, which would come as far south as the Oyster River on the east coast (just south of Campbell River), and as far south as Nootka Sound on the west coast. The commission also proposed renaming Oak Bay as Oak Bay–Gordon Head, and Esquimalt as Esquimalt–San Juan. On the Mainland, it proposed changing the name of Mackenzie to Mackenzie–Howe Sound.

The Legislative Assembly did not adopt any of the Norris Commission's recommendations.



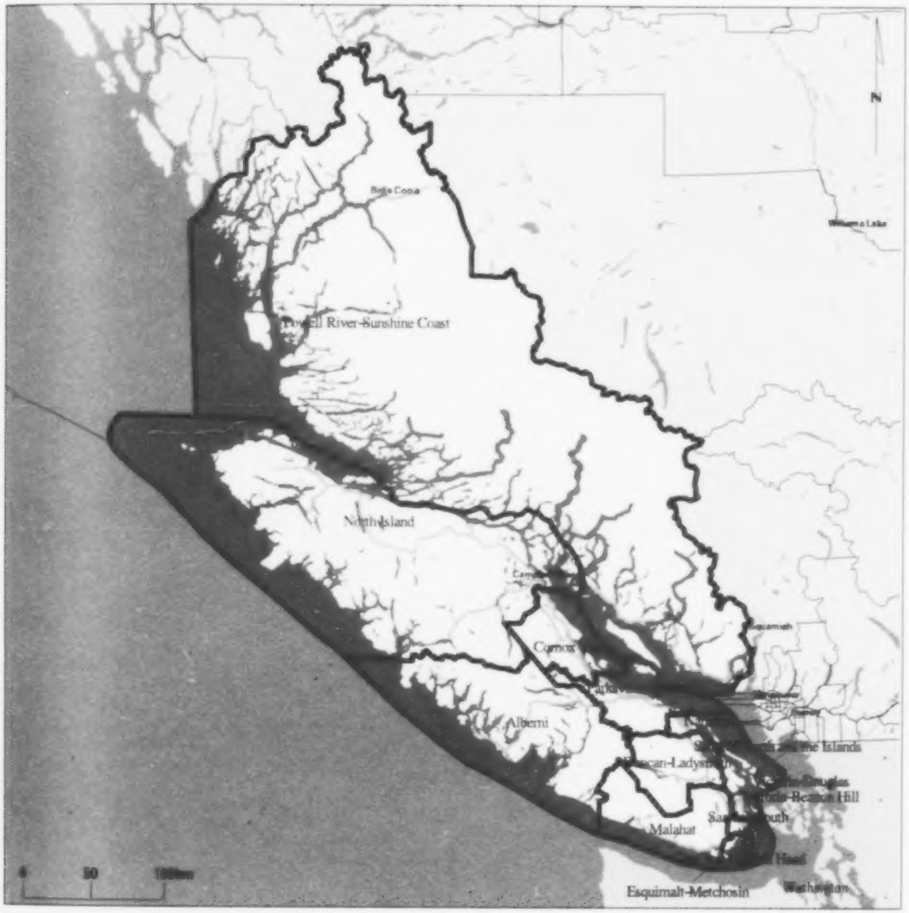
Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 4

c. The Eckardt Commission (1978)
Judge Eckardt repeated the Norris Commission recommendation that a new North Island electoral district be created (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 4), citing a growing population and representations that the communities in the northern part of the Island were unique and deserving of separate representation. He recommended that the Mackenzie district remain the same, except that East and West Thurlow Islands and Hardwicke Island should be transferred to North Island, because access to these islands is most readily attained via Sayward on Vancouver Island.

With respect to the other four northern Island districts, Judge Eckardt recommended as follows:

- Comox – this district should be expanded southward to include Qualicum, Parksville and Nanoose Bay, and eastward to include Lasqueti Island. Qualicum and Parksville had until then been in the Alberni electoral district, and he received strong submissions that they shared little in common with Port Alberni, and transportation between the two areas was difficult at times.
- Alberni – that the entire Nitinat Reserve area be included in this district, as the Native Indian population had strong ties with the Coast Indian population.
- Nanaimo – that the southern boundary be extended farther south, to include Cassidy and Ladysmith.
- Cowichan-Malahat – as discussed above, this district would lose the Nitinat Reserve area, as well as Cassidy and Ladysmith.

Judge Eckardt recommended several boundary and name changes for the five districts in the Victoria Metro area. Oak Bay would extend farther into Gordon Head, and would be renamed Oak Bay–Gordon Head. Victoria would



Vancouver Island and the South Coast, Map 5

extend farther into Saanich, and that part of the municipality of Esquimalt currently within Victoria should be re-turned to Esquimalt so as not to fragment the community, and the district should be renamed Esquimalt–Port Renfrew.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Eckardt's recommendations, establishing 10 Island electoral districts, plus one on the Mainland.

d. The Warren Commission (1982)
None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected Vancouver Island or the South Coast.

e. The McAdam Commission (1984)
The McAdam Commission recommended that the one-member districts of Nanaimo and Saanich and the Islands be increased to two members each. In 1985 the Legislative Assembly adopted these recommendations, thereby increasing the number of Vancouver Island MLAs to twelve, plus one on the Mainland.

f. The Fisher Commission (1988)
Judge Fisher's terms of reference required that he eliminate all dual-member districts, including the three on Vancouver Island: Nanaimo, Saanich and the Islands, and Victoria. In addition, he was satisfied that the Island's population warranted an additional electoral district, in the Ladysmith and Duncan area. Consequently, in his interim report he recommended 13 districts on the Island, plus one on the South Coast (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 5).

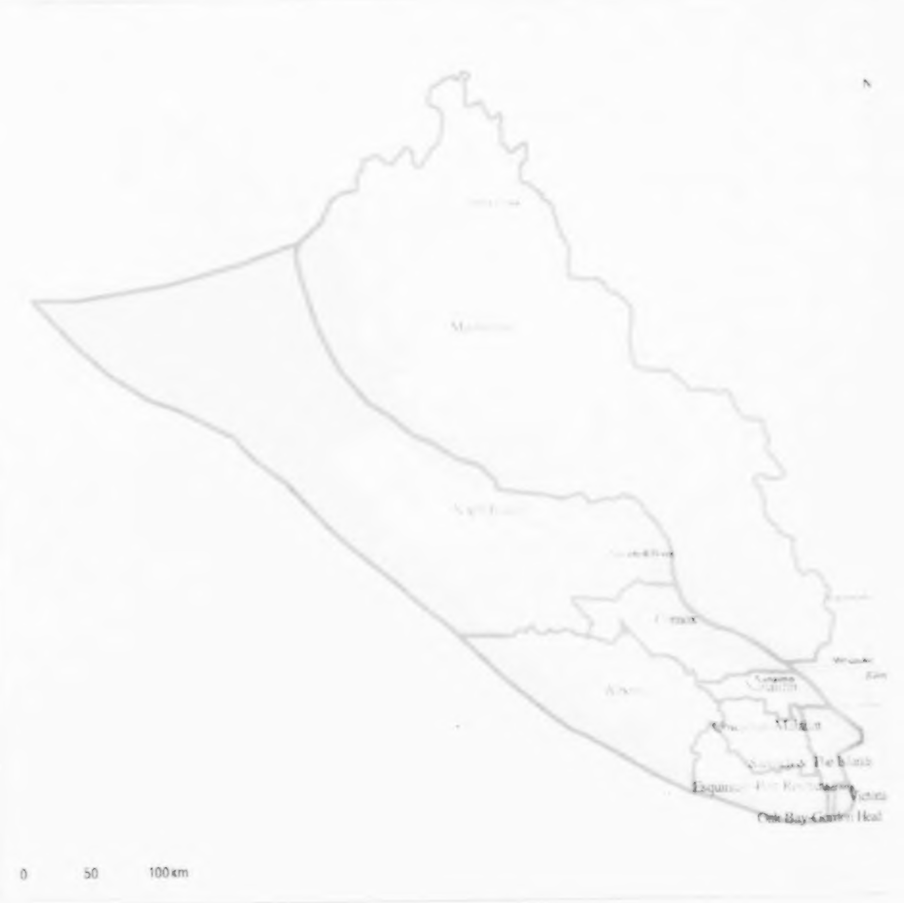
In his final report, Judge Fisher recommended that the northern boundary of the current district of Mackenzie be moved farther south to the 52nd parallel, so that Bella Bella, Ocean Falls and Bella Coola would be included in the proposed North Coast district, and that

The Eckardt Commission, 1978

Judge Eckardt repeated the Norris Commission recommendation that a new North Island electoral district be created (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 4), citing a growing population and representations that the communities in the northern part of the Island were unique and deserving of separate representation. He recommended that the Mackenzie district remain the same, except that East and West Thurlow Islands and Hardwicke Island should be transferred to North Island, because access to these islands is most readily attained via Sayward on Vancouver Island.

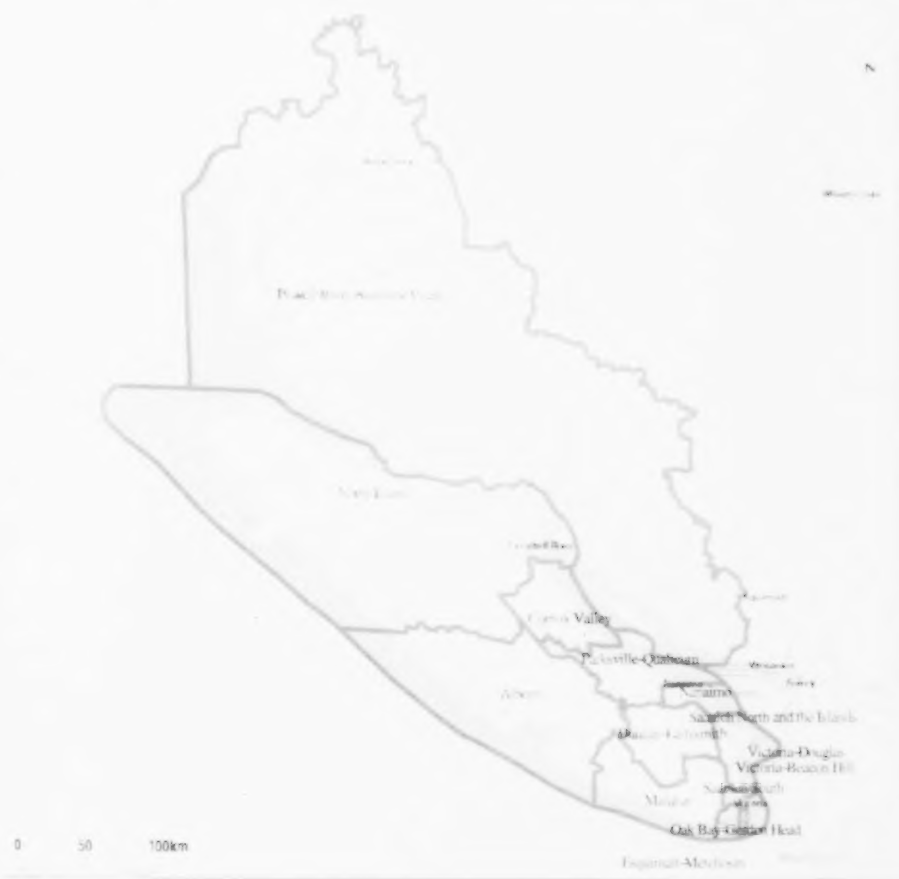
With respect to the other four northern Island districts, Judge Eckardt recommended as follows:

- Comox – this district should be expanded southward to include Qualicum, Parksville and Nanoose Bay, and eastward to include Lasqueti Island. Qualicum and Parksville had until then been in the Alberni electoral district, and he received strong submissions that they shared little in common with Port Alberni, and transportation between the two areas was difficult at times.
- Alberni – that the entire Nitinat Reserve area be included in this district, as the Native Indian population had strong ties with the Coast Indian population.
- Nanaimo – that the southern boundary be extended farther south, to include Cassidy and Ladysmith.
- Cowichan-Malahat – as discussed above, this district would lose the Nitinat Reserve area, as well as Cassidy and Ladysmith.



Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 4

Judge Eckardt recommended several boundary and name changes for the five districts in the Victoria Metro area. Oak Bay would extend farther into Gordon Head, and would be renamed Oak Bay-Gordon Head. Victoria woul


North Island
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Comox Valley
Parksville-Qualicum
Alberni
Nanaimo
Saanich North and the Islands
Victoria-Douglas
Victoria-Beacon Hill
Saanich South
Oak Bay-Gordon Head
Esquimalt-Metchosin
0
50
100km

Vancouver Island and the South Coast, Map 5

extend farther into Saanich, and that part of the municipality of Esquimalt currently within Victoria should be re-turned to Esquimalt so as not to fragment the community, and the district should be renamed Esquimalt–Port Renfrew.

The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Eckardt's recommendations, establishing 10 Island electoral districts, plus one on the Mainland.

[illegible]

None of Mr. Warren's recommendations affected Vancouver Island or the South Coast.

[illegible]

The McAdam Commission recommended that the one-member districts of Nanaimo and Saanich and the Islands be increased to two members each. In 1985 the Legislative Assembly adopted these recommendations, thereby increasing the number of Vancouver Island MLAs to twelve, plus one on the Mainland.

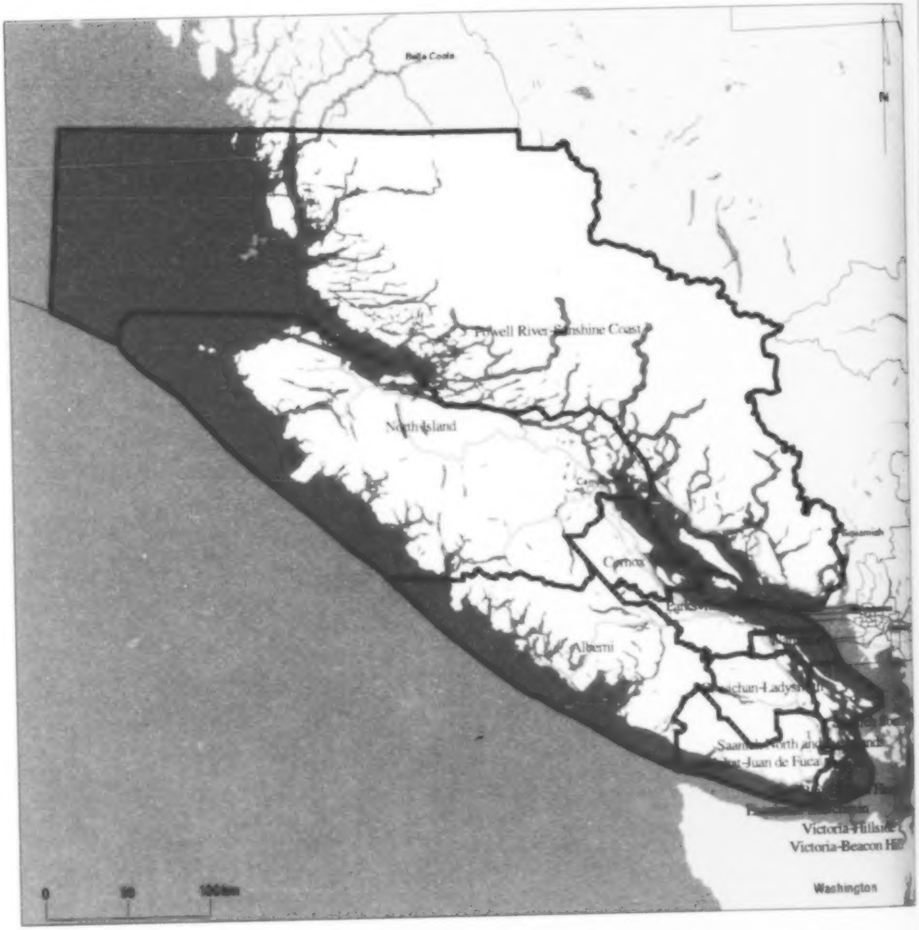
[illegible]

Judge Fisher's terms of reference required that he eliminate all dual-member districts, including the three on Vancouver Island: Nanaimo, Saanich and the Islands, and Victoria. In addition, he was satisfied that the Island's population warranted an additional electoral district, in the Ladysmith and Duncan area. Consequently, in his interim report he recommended 13 districts on the Island, plus one on the South Coast (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 5).

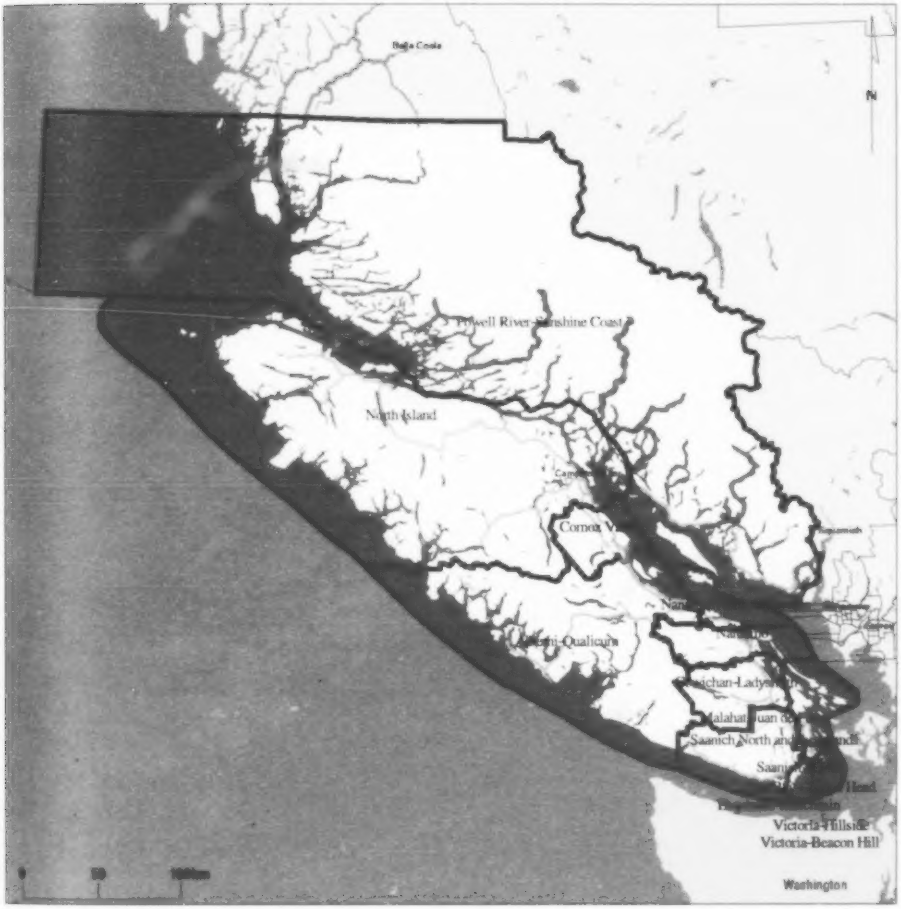
In his final report, Judge Fisher recommended that the northern boundary of the current district of Mackenzie be moved farther south to the 52nd parallel, so that Bella Bella, Ocean Falls and Bella Coola would be included in the proposed North Coast district, and that

Mackenzie be renamed Powell River–Sunshine Coast. He also recommended several boundary and name changes to the Island electoral districts he had initially proposed. The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 6), but changed the name of Duncan-Ladysmith to Cowichan-Ladysmith, and changed the proposed name of Cowichan–Juan de Fuca to Malahat–Juan de Fuca.

g. The Wood Commission (1999)
The Wood Commission was faced with significant population disparities among electoral districts – Alberni had a deviation of minus 32.9 percent, while Comox Valley and Parksville-Qualicum had comparable positive deviations. The location of over-populated and under-populated electoral districts side-by-side led the commission to conclude, in its interim report, that population could be redistributed without the addition of any new electoral districts. The commission recommended retaining the existing 13 Island electoral districts, with some name changes (Vancouver Island and South Coast Map 7), but with several significant boundary changes:



Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 6


Bella Coola
N
Powell River–Sunshine Coast
North Island
Comox V
Nanaimo
Alberni-Qualicum
Cowichan-Ladysmith
Malahat-Juan de
Saanich North and the Islands
Saanich
Victoria-Hillside
Victoria-Beacon Hill
Washington
0
50
100km

Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 7

- North Island – the southern boundary should be moved south to the Oyster River.
- Alberni-Qualicum – the only way to bolster the Alberni district's population was to expand it eastward over the Highway 4 "hump," to include Qualicum, and Denman, Hornby and Lasqueti Islands. The commission observed that Port Alberni had been joined with east coast communities between 1966 and 1979.
- Saanich North and the Islands – the commission transferred Hall and Norway Islands to Cowichan-Ladysmith, but rejected a suggestion that all the southern Gulf Islands constitute one new electoral district, as it would have a deviation of minus 52 percent.
- Victoria–Beacon Hill – the commission included Vic West in this district, to respect municipal boundaries, and increase Victoria–Beacon Hill's population.

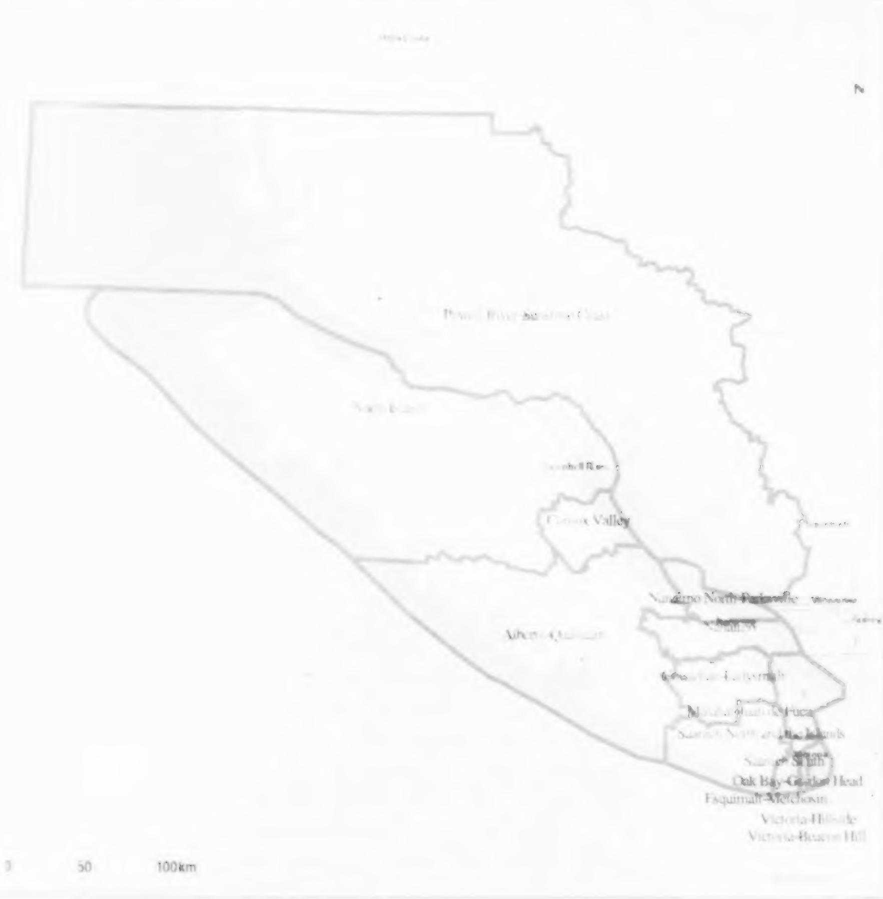
In its final report, the commission acknowledged the strong opposition voiced by residents of Qualicum to being separated from Parksville and joined with Alberni. The commission explained at length how it considered "a number of radical redistribution proposals which would have involved

Mackenzie be renamed Powell River–Sunshine Coast. He also recommended several boundary and name changes to the Island electoral districts he had initially proposed. The Legislative Assembly adopted all of Judge Fisher's recommendations (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 6), but changed the name of Duncan-Ladysmith to Cowichan-Ladysmith, and changed the proposed name of Cowichan–Juan de Fuca to Malahat–Juan de Fuca.

The Wood Commission was faced with significant population disparities among electoral districts – Alberni had a deviation of minus 32.9 percent, while Comox Valley and Parksville-Qualicum had comparable positive deviations. The location of over-populated and under-populated electoral districts side-by-side led the commission to conclude, in its interim report, that population could be redistributed without the addition of any new electoral districts. The commission recommended retaining the existing 13 Island electoral districts, with some name changes (Vancouver Island and South Coast Map 7), but with several significant boundary changes:

N
Comox Valley
Parksville-Qualicum
Nanaimo
Saanich South
Malahat-Juan de Fuca
Oak Bay-Gordon Head
Esquimalt-Metchosin
Victoria-Hillside
Victoria-Beacon Hill
0
50
100km

Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 6


N
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
North Island
Campbell River
Comox Valley
Nanaimo North-Parksville
Nanaimo
Alberni-Qualicum
Cowichan-Ladysmith
Malahat-Juan de Fuca
Saanich North and the Islands
Saanich South
Oak Bay-Gordon Head
Esquimalt-Metchosin
Victoria-Hillside
Victoria-Beacon Hill
0
50
100km

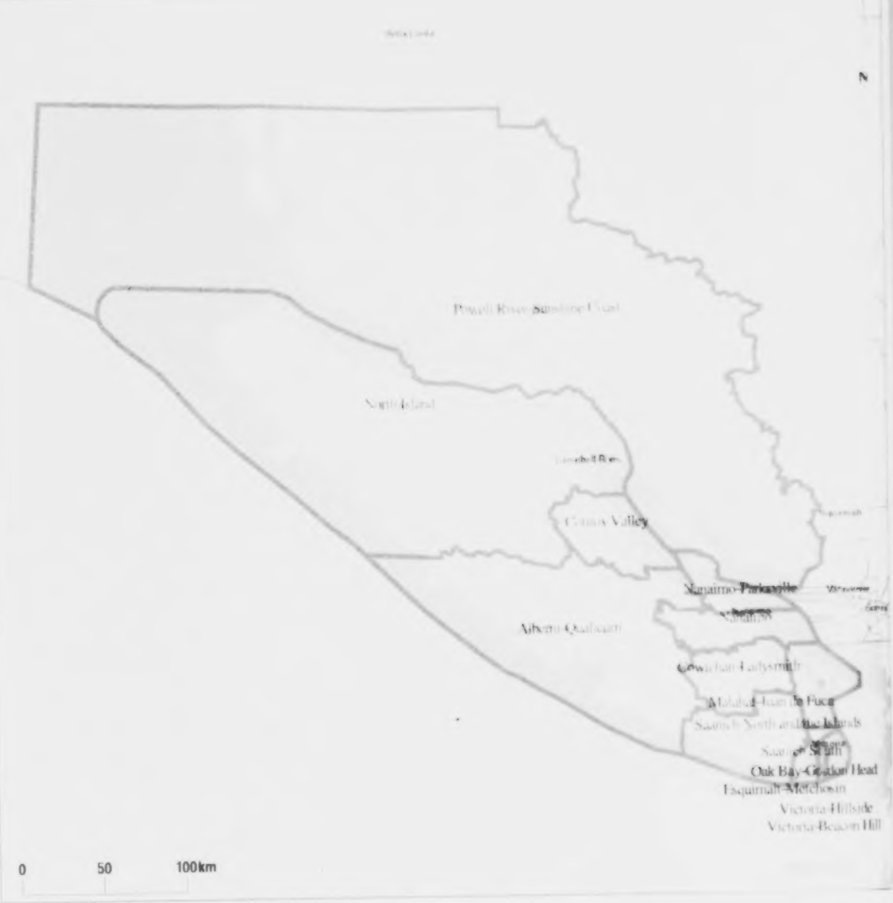
Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 7

- North Island – the southern boundary should be moved south to the Oyster River.
- Alberni-Qualicum – the only way to bolster the Alberni district's population was to expand it eastward over the Highway 4 "hump," to include Qualicum, and Denman, Hornby and Lasqueti Islands. The commission observed that Port Alberni had been joined with east coast communities between 1966 and 1979.
- Saanich North and the Islands – the commission transferred Hall and Norway Islands to Cowichan-Ladysmith, but rejected a suggestion that all the southern Gulf Islands constitute one new electoral district, as it would have a deviation of minus 52 percent.
- Victoria–Beacon Hill – the commission included Vic West in this district, to respect municipal boundaries, and increase Victoria–Beacon Hill's population.

In its final report, the commission acknowledged the strong opposition voiced by residents of Qualicum to being separated from Parksville and joined with Alberni. The commission explained at length how it considered "a number of radical redistribution proposals which would have involved redesigning the entire electoral map of Vancouver Island." However, the commission found it impossible to redesign the electoral map in a reasonable way to keep the two communities together. It did, however, agree that Denman and Hornby Islands, and the adjacent coastal communities on Vancouver Island, should be transferred from Alberni-Qualicum to Comox Valley (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 8).

The commission also agreed to adjust the boundaries between Malahat–Juan de Fuca and Saanich South (so that the entire Highlands District Municipality would be within Malahat–Juan de Fuca), and between Victoria-Hillside and Victoria–Beacon Hill (so that the boundary did not go through the Royal Jubilee Hospital grounds).

The Legislative Assembly adopted all the Wood Commission's recommendations.

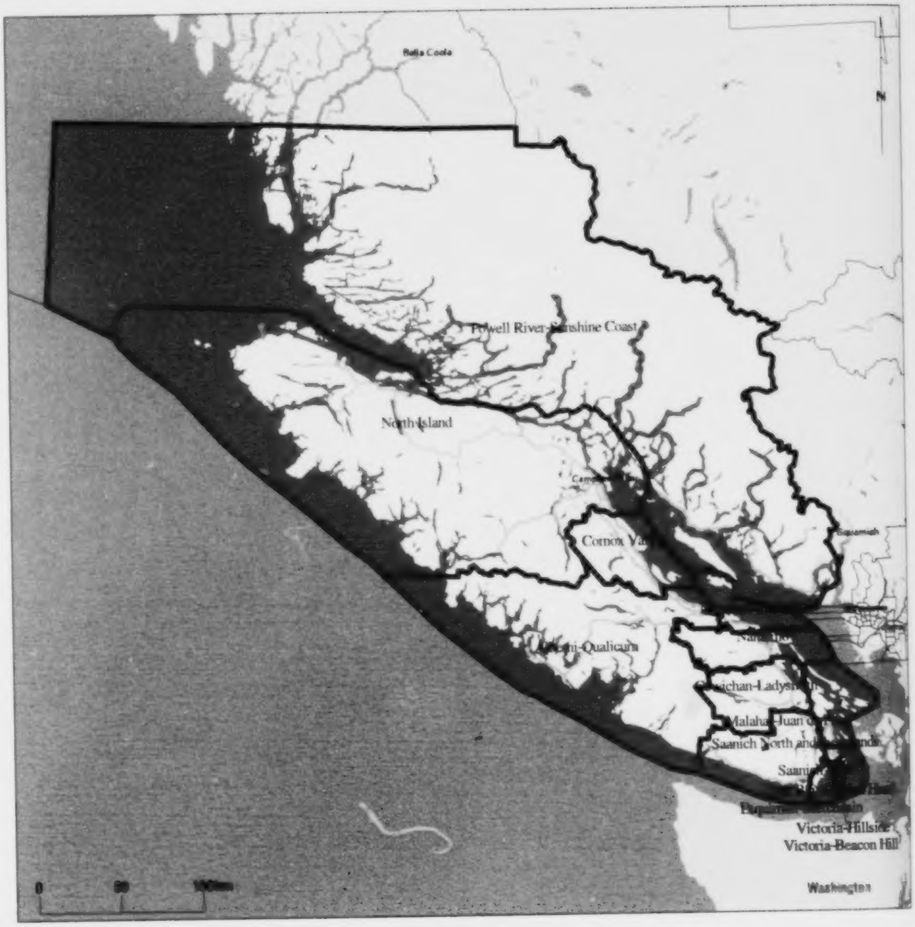

N
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
North Island
Campbell River
Comox Valley
Nanaimo-Parksville
Nanaimo
Alberni-Qualicum
Cowichan-Ladysmith
Malahat-Juan de Fuca
Saanich North and the Islands
Saanich South
Oak Bay-Gordon Head
Esquimalt-Metchosin
Victoria-Hillside
Victoria-Beacon Hill
0
50
100km

Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 8

redesigning the entire electoral map of Vancouver Island." However, the commission found it impossible to redesign the electoral map in a reasonable way to keep the two communities together. It did, however, agree that Denman and Hornby Islands, and the adjacent coastal communities on Vancouver Island, should be transferred from Alberni-Qualicum to Comox Valley (see Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 8).

The commission also agreed to adjust the boundaries between Malahat–Juan de Fuca and Saanich South (so that the entire Highlands District Municipality would be within Malahat–Juan de Fuca), and between Victoria-Hillside and Victoria–Beacon Hill (so that the boundary did not go through the Royal Jubilee Hospital grounds).

The Legislative Assembly adopted all the Wood Commission's recommendations.


Bella Coola
N
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
North Island
Comox Valley
Squamish
Nanaimo
Alberni-Qualicum
Cowichan-Ladysmith
Malahat-Juan de Fuca
Saanich North and the Islands
Esquimalt-Metchosin
Victoria-Hillside
Victoria-Beacon Hill
Washington
0
50
100km

Vancouver Island and South Coast, Map 8

2. *Our analysis of the Vancouver Island and South Coast electoral districts*

The region we define as Vancouver Island–South Coast includes Vancouver Island and the Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral districts (see map, page 302.) For convenience we have created three subsets: Capital region, Mid-Island region and Northern Island and South Coast region. Vancouver Island currently has 13 electoral districts, plus one district on the South Coast. These electoral districts, with their deviations at the time of the 1996 census, and now, are as follows (see Table 29):

TABLE 29: CURRENT SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS ON VANCOUVER ISLAND AND SOUTH COAST

Electoral District	1996 deviation*	2006 deviation**
North Island	+21%	+2.5%
Comox Valley	+16.5%	+14.2%
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	-4.8%	-8.7%
Alberni-Qualicum	+7.7%	+1.4%
Nanaimo-Parksville	+10%	+17.7%
Nanaimo	+9.1%	+7.1%
Cowichan-Ladysmith	+7.4%	+4.5%
Malahat–Juan de Fuca	+0.0%	+8.6%
Saanich North and the Islands	+7.9%	+6%
Saanich South	+1.7%	+0.4%
Oak Bay–Gordon Head	+1.2%	-6.2%
Victoria–Beacon Hill	+4.9%	+0.8%
Victoria-Hillside	+1.8%	-2%
Esquimalt-Metchosin	-0.5%	-1.9%

* based on 1996 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

** based on 2006 census data, and assuming 79 electoral districts

Vancouver Island has a total population of 704,577. Balancing the population among all 13 electoral districts would result in an average deviation of plus 4.1 percent based on 79 electoral districts. Although the Mid-Island (around Nanaimo) has seen strong population growth, overall the Island's growth is moderate. We are satisfied that we can accommodate the Mid-Island's growth adequately through the reconfiguration of existing electoral districts, and that Vancouver Island should continue to have 13 electoral districts.

We began our boundary-setting exercise by identifying several anomalies created by the current configuration of electoral districts, including the following:

- The current Malahat–Juan de Fuca electoral district is an aggregation of disparate communities, stretching from Port Renfrew in the southwest to Cowichan Bay in the northeast, not yet connected by paved roads.
- Qualicum has a much greater affinity and community interest with Parksville, than it has with Port Alberni and the Pacific Rim National Park communities.

a. Capital Region

Starting in the south, the Capital Regional District has 13 municipalities and four unincorporated electoral areas (see map of Capital Region municipalities, page 298), which presented us with a real challenge in developing electoral districts that followed, as much as possible, municipal boundaries:

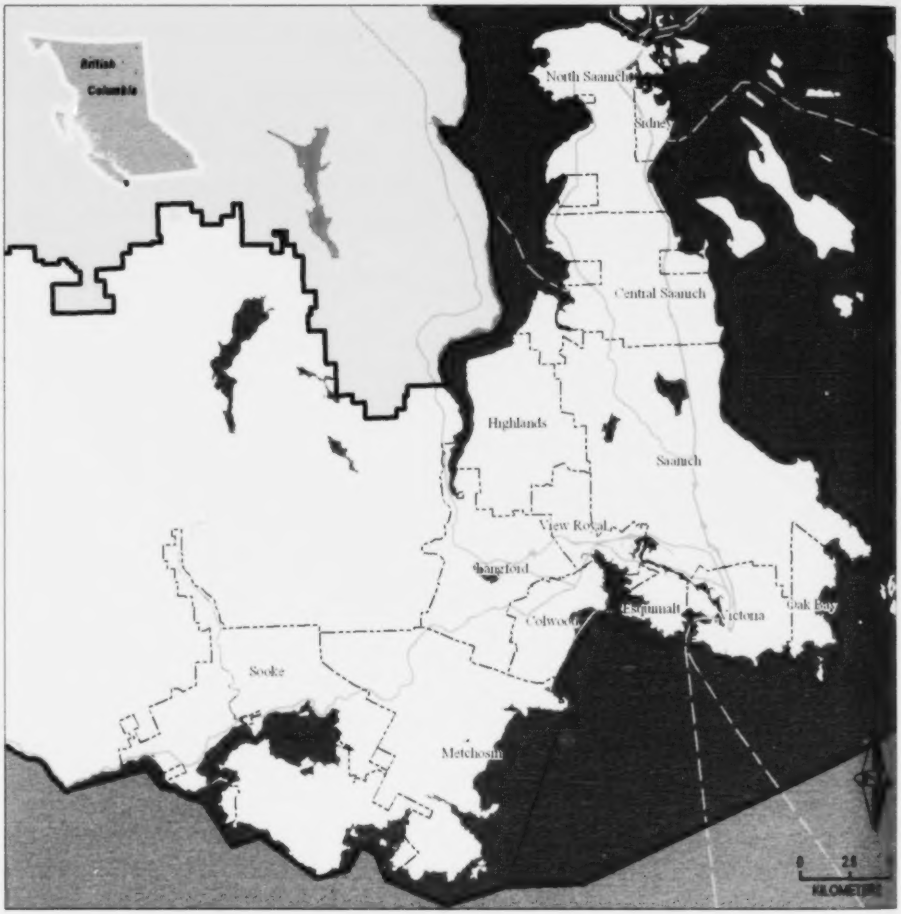
Municipality	Population
Sidney	11,315
North Saanich	10,823
Central Saanich	15,745
Saanich	108,265
Oak Bay	17,908
Victoria	78,057
Esquimalt	16,840
View Royal	8,768
Highlands	1,903
Langford	22,459
Colwood	14,687
Metchosin	4,795
Sooke	9,704

Saanich municipality is currently divided among three electoral districts, although its population is well-suited for two electoral districts. In our view, Saanich should have two electoral districts exclusively within its municipal boundaries (see map of two proposed Saanich electoral districts, pages 304 to 305). We have relied on major arterials (Douglas Street, MacKenzie Avenue and Blenkinsop Road) and the western boundary of Mount Douglas Park to serve as a divider between these two electoral districts.[63]

We are proposing that the current Saanich North and the Islands district be retained, with no change. It includes the municipalities of Central Saanich, North Saanich and Sidney, as well as Saltspring, Saturna, North and South Pender, Mayne and Galiano Islands (see map of proposed Saanich North and the Islands electoral district, page 306).

Victoria is too large for one electoral district, but not large enough for two. Neither of the adjacent municipalities of Oak Bay and Esquimalt is large enough for its own electoral district. Consequently, we have grouped all three municipalities together, to form two electoral districts, using major arterials in Victoria (Cook Street, Hillside Avenue and Quadra Street) as the dividing line (see maps of two proposed Victoria electoral districts, pages 307 and 308).

Moving westward, there are strong community interests among the Western Communities (View Royal,



Capital Region Municipalities

---

[63] Our proposed Saanich East electoral district deviates from the Saanich municipal boundary in one area (by following Haultain Street between Richmond Road and Foul Bay Road), to avoid having the boundary cut through the middle of Royal Jubilee Hospital.

Highlands, Langford, Colwood and Metchosin) and, farther west, the communities of Sooke, Jordan River and Port Renfrew. Ideally, they should all be joined together into one electoral district. However, that would have resulted in a deviation of plus 31.5 percent, which we consider to be too high. Consequently, we have had to use the Island Highway as a divider, with the result that Highlands and those portions of Langford and View Royal that lie north of the Island Highway will be included in our proposed Cowichan-Goldstream electoral district, discussed below. We propose that the new west coast electoral district be named Juan de Fuca (see map of proposed Juan de Fuca electoral district, page 309).

Proposing these six electoral districts for the Capital Region results in deviations averaging plus 9.8 percent. However, BC Stats' population projections to 2013 (see Appendix O) and other information we have received, indicates that population growth in the six electoral districts in the Capital Region will be modest. The average deviation for these electoral districts may drop.

b. Mid-Island

Moving north from the Malahat, there is a series of communities on eastern Vancouver Island in an area known locally as Mid-Island. The communities include, from south to north, Shawnigan Lake, Mill Bay, Cowichan Bay, Cowichan Lake, Duncan, North Cowichan (including Chemainus), Ladysmith, Nanaimo, Lantzville, Parksville and Qualicum.

Beginning in the south, we created a Cowichan-Goldstream electoral district that stretches from Duncan and Lake Cowichan in the north to Highlands and those portions of Langford and View Royal that are north of the Island Highway, in the south (see map of proposed Cowichan-Goldstream electoral district, page 310). This proposed district will have a deviation of plus 8.2 percent.

We then combined the municipalities of North Cowichan, Ladysmith and the southern part of Nanaimo into an electoral district that we propose be named Nanaimo–North Cowichan (see map of proposed Nanaimo–North Cowichan electoral district, page 311). This proposed district will have a deviation of plus 3.8 percent.

We then created an electoral district (which we propose be named Nanaimo) that combined central Nanaimo and Gabriola Island (see map of proposed Nanaimo electoral district page 312). This proposed electoral district will have a deviation of plus 6.2 percent.

Due to population growth since the 1999 Wood Commission, there is now sufficient population north of our proposed Nanaimo district to form a new electoral district that combines that part of Nanaimo north of Hammond Bay Road and Rutherford Road with Lantzville, Parksville and Qualicum (see map of proposed Parksville-Qualicum electoral district, p. 313.) We propose that this district be named Parksville-Qualicum. This proposed electoral district will have a deviation of plus 5 percent.

c. Northern Island and South Coast

Moving to the north end of the Island, we are recommending that the North Island district retain its current southern boundary at the Oyster River, just south of Campbell River. However, we believe that the small communities lying east of Johnstone Strait and Queen Charlotte Strait, including Minstrel Island, Echo Bay, Sullivan Bay and Kingcome Inlet (currently in the Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district) should be included in the North Island district. We were told that their trading routes and community interests are with Sayward and Port McNeill, and they share the same regional district.

Although no previous electoral boundaries commission has joined mainland and Island communities in this manner, we discovered that many other provincial administrative groupings do, including:

- Comox-Strathcona Regional District
- Mount Waddington Regional District
- Vancouver Island Health Area
- North Island College Region
- Vancouver Island Environment Region
- South Coast Transportation Region
- BC Assessment Authority Courtenay Area
- North Island–Central Coast Forest District
- Vancouver Island/Coast Development Region.

We are satisfied that the people living in the small mainland and island communities that are included within Mount Waddington Regional District's Electoral Area A have a stronger community interest with people living in the North Island electoral district, and should be joined with them.

We now turn to the existing electoral districts of Comox Valley and Alberni-Qualicum. The current electoral district of Comox Valley has a deviation of plus 14.2 percent, while neighbouring Alberni-Qualicum, having now lost the Town of Qualicum Beach and several small adjacent communities, is left with a deviation of minus 20 percent. Notwithstanding several submissions that the Comox Valley district can live with a high positive deviation because it works well with its present boundaries, we concluded that we needed to realign the boundaries of these two electoral districts in order to moderate their disparate deviations.

We considered the creation of a West Coast electoral district, but there is simply inadequate population to the north and south of the current Alberni-Qualicum boundaries to make that feasible. In any event, the trade routes of the West Coast communities on the northern portion of Vancouver Island run eastward to Port Hardy and Campbell River, not southward to Tofino or Port Alberni. Similarly, the trade and transportation routes of West Coast communities to the south run southward to Victoria or eastward to Lake Cowichan, not northward to Ucluelet.

We concluded that the only feasible way to bring the Alberni district up to an acceptable population level is to join it with communities on the east coast of the Island (as three previous commissions have done). We are thus recommending that the southeastern boundary of this electoral district begin at the northern boundary of the Town of Qualicum Beach, extend north nearly to the southern boundaries of the Village of Cumberland and the City of Courtenay, and include Denman and Hornby Islands. This district, which we propose be named Central Island, will have a deviation of minus 9 percent (see map of proposed Central Island electoral district, page 315). Although high, this deviation reflects the rural, and relatively sparsely-populated nature of the district.

We have retained the Comox Valley electoral district (see map of proposed Comox Valley electoral district, page 316). As discussed above, its southern boundary has been moved farther north, to just south of the Cumberland and Courtenay municipal boundaries. It will have a deviation of plus 9.4 percent.

We are proposing that the current Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district be retained. However, it will be smaller, extending northward only to the southern boundary of Electoral Area A of the Mount Waddington Regional District (see map of proposed Powell River–Sunshine Coast electoral district, page 317). As discussed earlier, we are proposing that Electoral Area A be included in our proposed North Island electoral district, and that our proposed North Coast electoral district extend farther south, to the northern boundary of Electoral Area A.

3. Conclusion

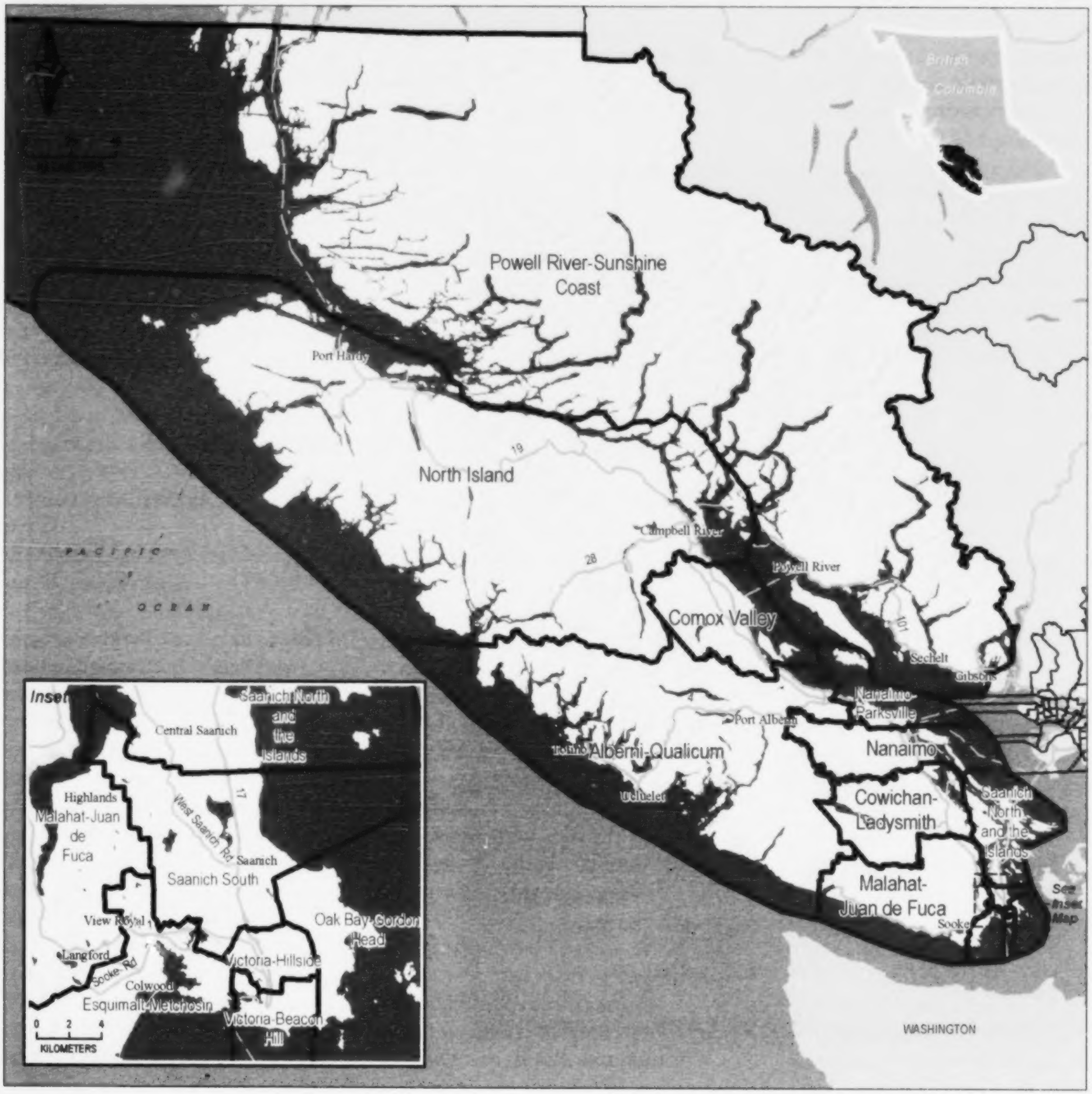
Accordingly, we propose that there be 14 electoral districts on Vancouver Island–South Coast, as follows:

TABLE 30: PROPOSED SMP ELECTORAL DISTRICTS OF VANCOUVER ISLAND–SOUTH COAST

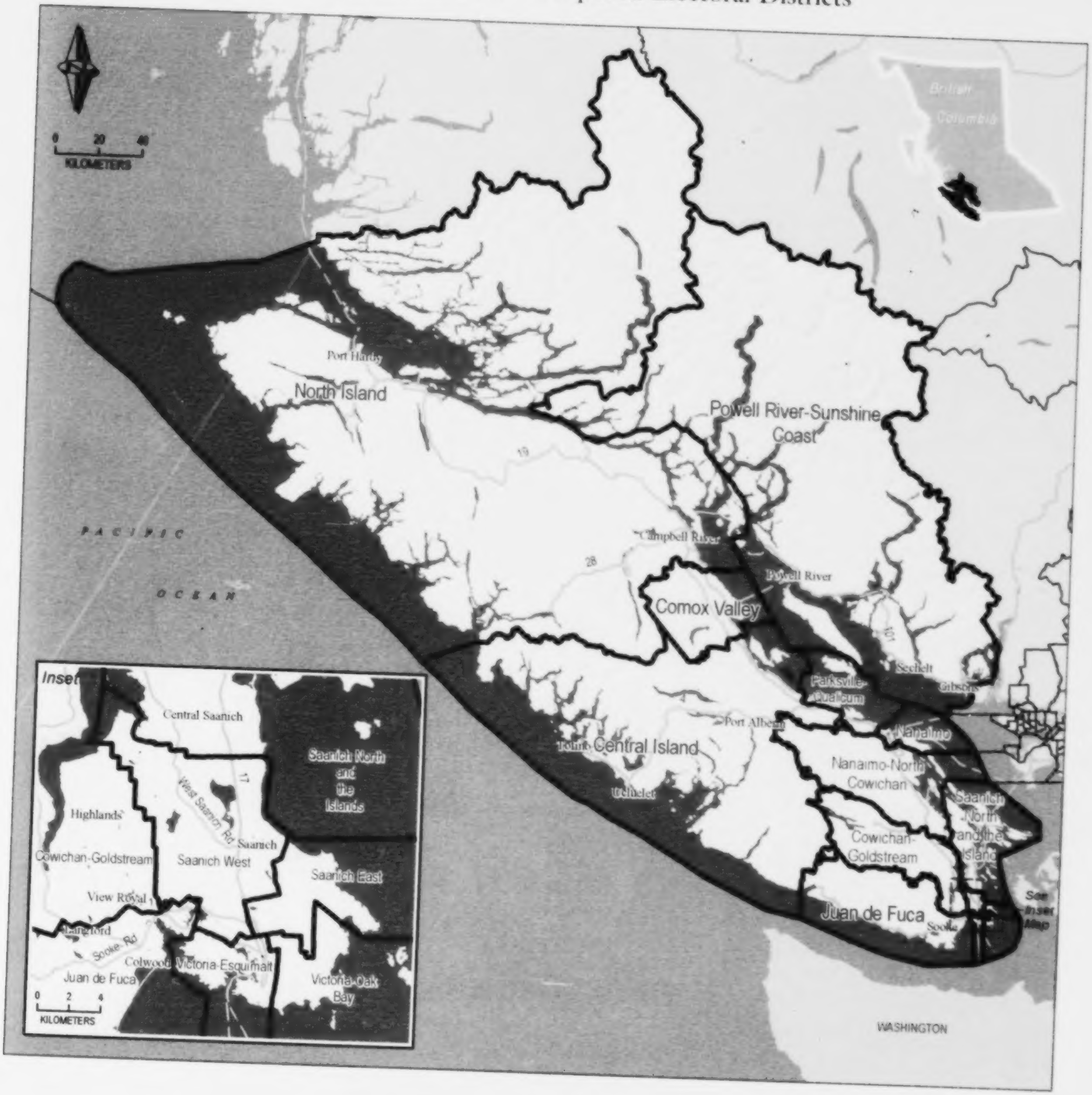
Electoral District	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation*
Northern Island and South Coast			
North Island	44,502	53,654	+5.7%
Comox Valley	1,707	55,543	+9.4%
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	21,232	47,109	-7.2%
Central Island	13,903	46,214	-9%
Mid-Island			
Parksville-Qualicum	1,070	53,318	+5%
Nanaimo	627	53,940	+6.2%
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	2,528	52,695	+3.8%
Cowichan-Goldstream	1,731	54,946	+8.2%
Capital Region			
Saanich North and the Islands	1,526	55,201	+8.7%
Saanich West	93	56,548	+11.4%
Saanich East	91	51,880	+2.2%
Victoria–Oak Bay	290	57,571	+13.4%
Victoria-Esquimalt	99	57,133	+12.5%
Juan de Fuca	2,646	56,240	+10.7%

* based on 81 electoral districts, with a provincial electoral quotient of 50,784

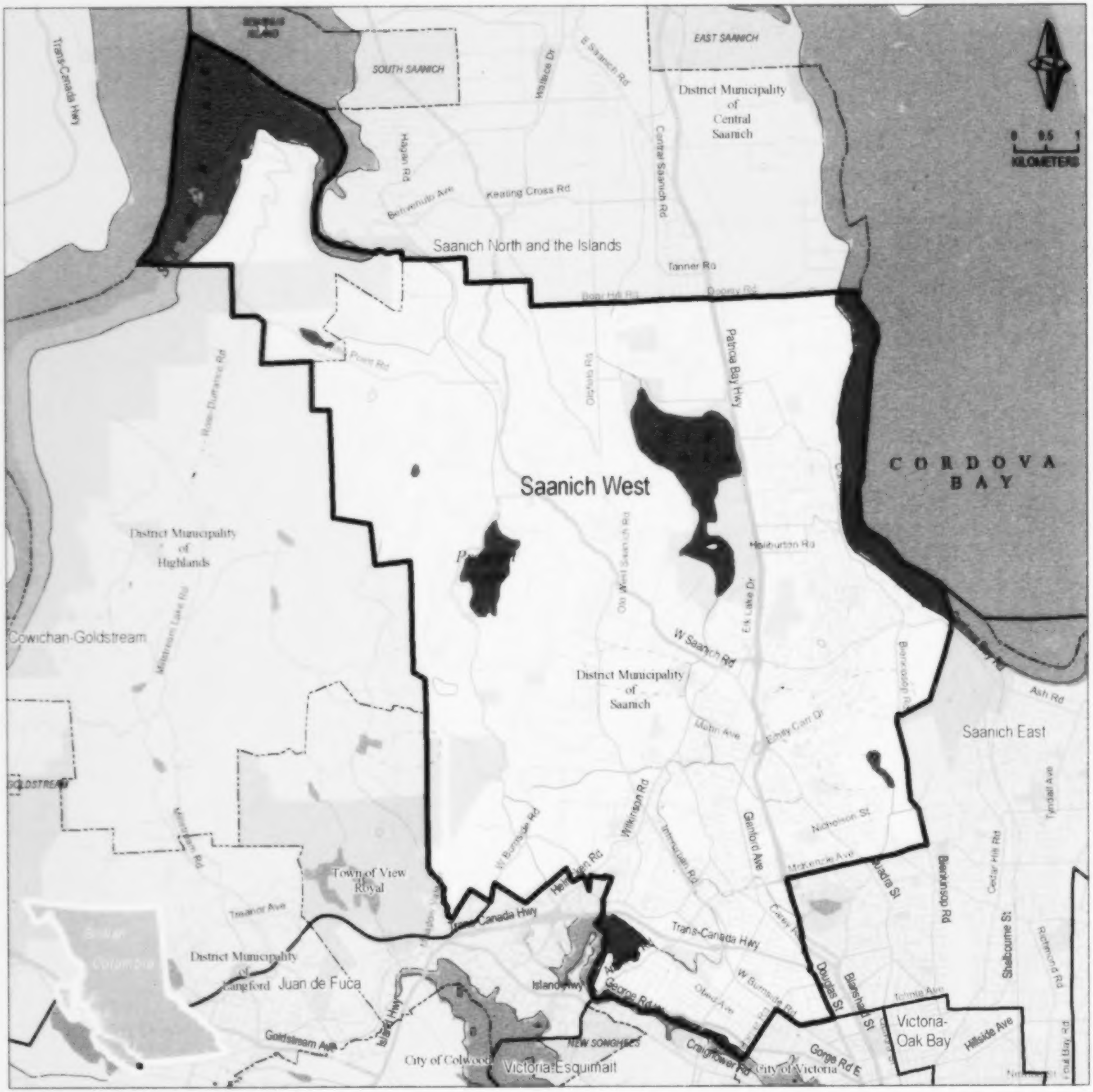
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Current Electoral Districts


British Columbia
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Port Hardy
19
North Island
Campbell River
28
Powell River
PACIFIC OCEAN
Comox Valley
101
Sechelt
Gibsons
Nanaimo-Parksville
Port Alberni
Tofino
Alberni-Qualicum
Nanaimo
Ucluelet
Cowichan-Ladysmith
Saanich North and the Islands
Malahat-Juan de Fuca
Sooke
See Inset Map
WASHINGTON
Inset
Saanich North and the Islands
Central Saanich
17
Highlands
Malahat-Juan de Fuca
West Saanich Rd
Saanich
Saanich South
Oak Bay-Gordon Head
View Royal
Langford
Sooke Rd
Colwood
Victoria-Hillside
Esquimalt-Metchosin
Victoria-Beacon Hill
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

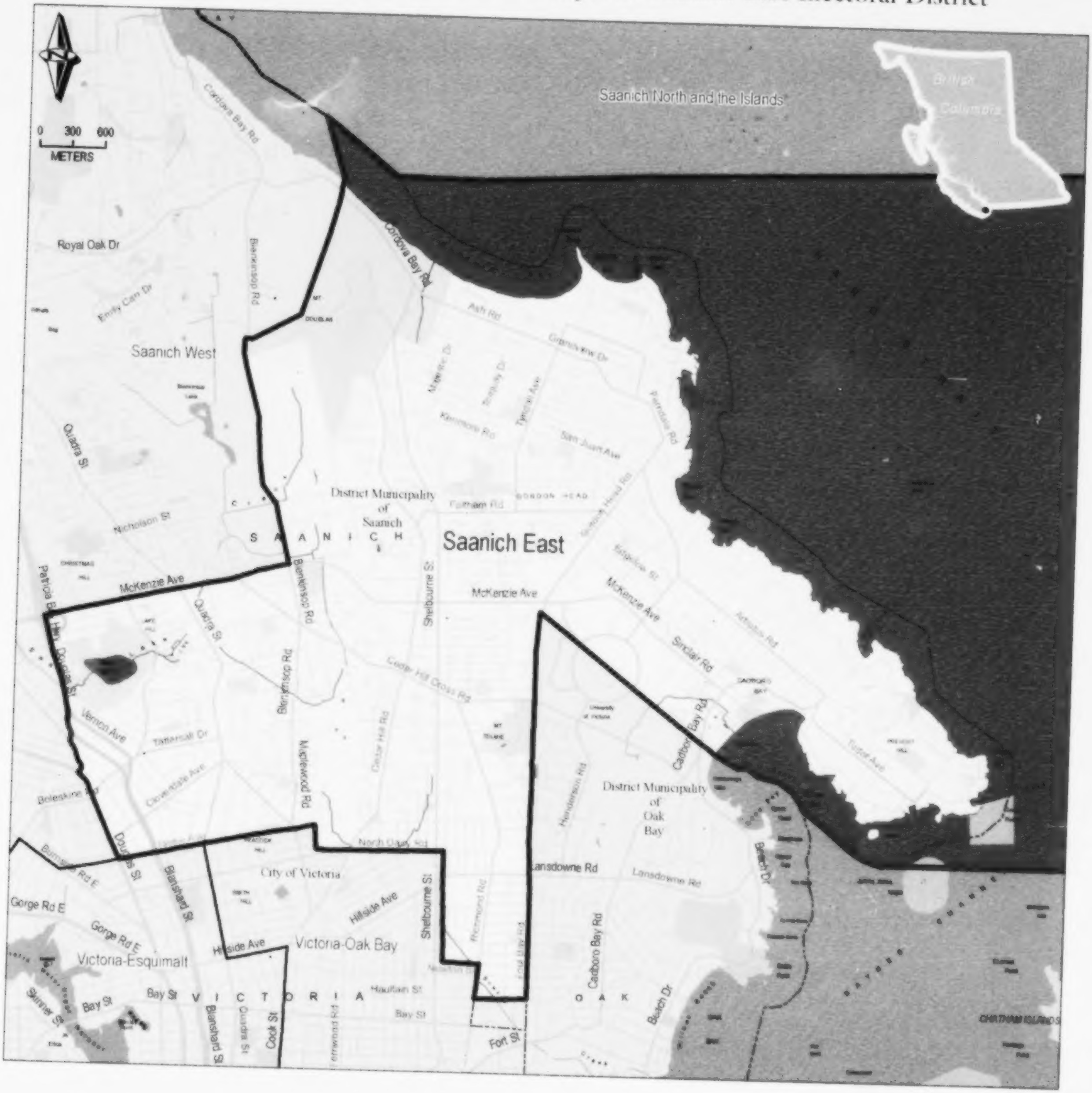
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Electoral Districts


British Columbia
0 20 40
KILOMETERS
PACIFIC OCEAN
Port Hardy
North Island
19
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Campbell River
28
Powell River
Comox Valley
101
Sechelt
Gibsons
Parksville-Qualicum
Port Alberni
Nanaimo
Tofino
Central Island
Ucluelet
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Saanich North and the Islands
Cowichan-Goldstream
Juan de Fuca
Sooke
See Inset Map
WASHINGTON
Inset
Central Saanich
Saanich North and the Islands
17
West Saanich Rd
Highlands
Saanich
Cowichan-Goldstream
Saanich West
Saanich East
View Royal
Langford
Sooke Rd
Colwood
Victoria-Esquimalt
Juan de Fuca
Victoria-Oak Bay
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

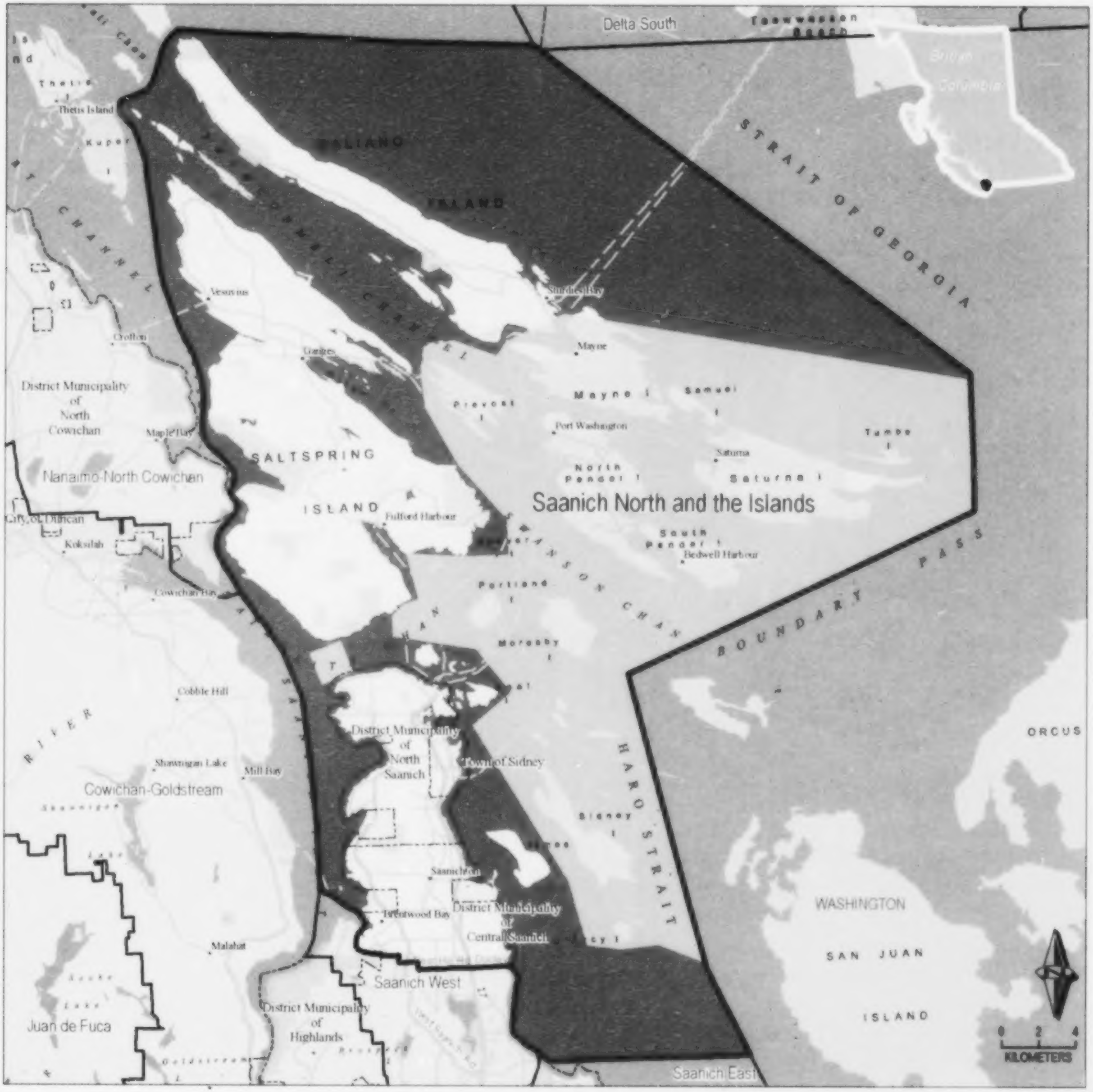
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Saanich West Electoral District


SOUTH SAANICH
EAST SAANICH
District Municipality of Central Saanich
Trans-Canada Hwy
Wallace Dr
E Saanich Rd
Central Saanich Rd
Hagan Rd
Benvenuto Ave
Keating Cross Rd
Saanich North and the Islands
Tanner Rd
Patricia Bay Hwy
Old West Saanich Rd
CORDOVA BAY
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
Saanich West
District Municipality of Highlands
Cowichan-Goldstream
Millstream Lake Rd
Haliburton Rd
Elk Lake Dr
W Saanich Rd
District Municipality of Saanich
Royal Oak Dr
Mann Ave
Emily Carr Dr
Ash Rd
Saanich East
GOLDSTREAM
Wilkinson Rd
Interurban Rd
Glanford Ave
Nicholson St
McKenzie Ave
Quadra St
Blenkinsop Rd
Cedar Hill Rd
Tyndall Ave
W Burnside Rd
Helmcken Rd
Town of View Royal
Trans-Canada Hwy
Carey Rd
Shelbourne St
Richmond Rd
Treanor Ave
District Municipality of Langford
Juan de Fuca
Island Hwy
Douglas St
Blanshard St
Tolmie Ave
Victoria-Oak Bay
Hillside Ave
Goldstream Ave
NEW SONGHEES
Craigflower Rd
Gorge Rd E
City of Colwood
Victoria-Esquimalt
City of Victoria
British Columbia
Foul Bay Rd

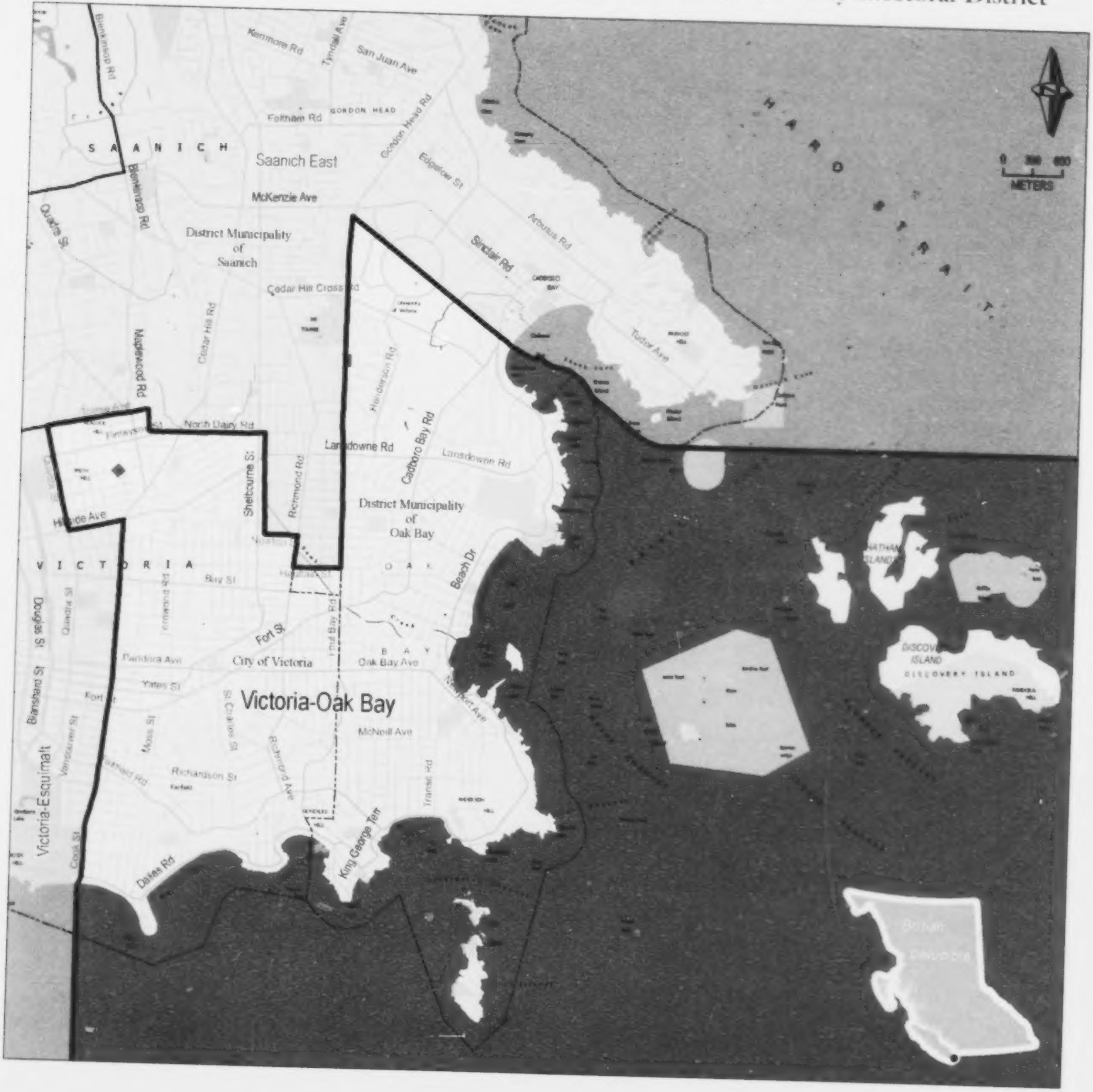
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Saanich East Electoral District


0 300 600
METERS
Saanich North and the Islands
British Columbia
Cordova Bay Rd
Royal Oak Dr
Emily Carr Dr
Blenkinsop Rd
Saanich West
Quadra St
Nicholson St
Ash Rd
Grandview Dr
Kenmore Rd
San Juan Ave
Feltham Rd
GORDON HEAD
Gordon Head Rd
District Municipality of Saanich
S A A N I C H
Saanich East
McKenzie Ave
Shelbourne St
Patricia Bay Hwy
Douglas St
Vernon Ave
Tattersall Dr
Cloverdale Ave
Boleskine Rd
Cedar Hill Cross Rd
Cedar Hill Rd
Maplewood Rd
Sinclair Rd
Arbutus Rd
CADBORO BAY
Cadboro Bay Rd
University of Victoria
Henderson Rd
District Municipality of Oak Bay
Tudor Ave
Finnerty Rd
North Dairy Rd
Lansdowne Rd
Beach Dr
City of Victoria
Hillside Ave
Victoria-Oak Bay
Victoria-Esquimalt
Burnside Rd E
Gorge Rd E
Blanshard St
Cook St
Richmond Rd
Foul Bay Rd
Haultain St
Bay St
Skinner St
Fort St
V I C T O R I A
O A K
CHATHAM ISLANDS

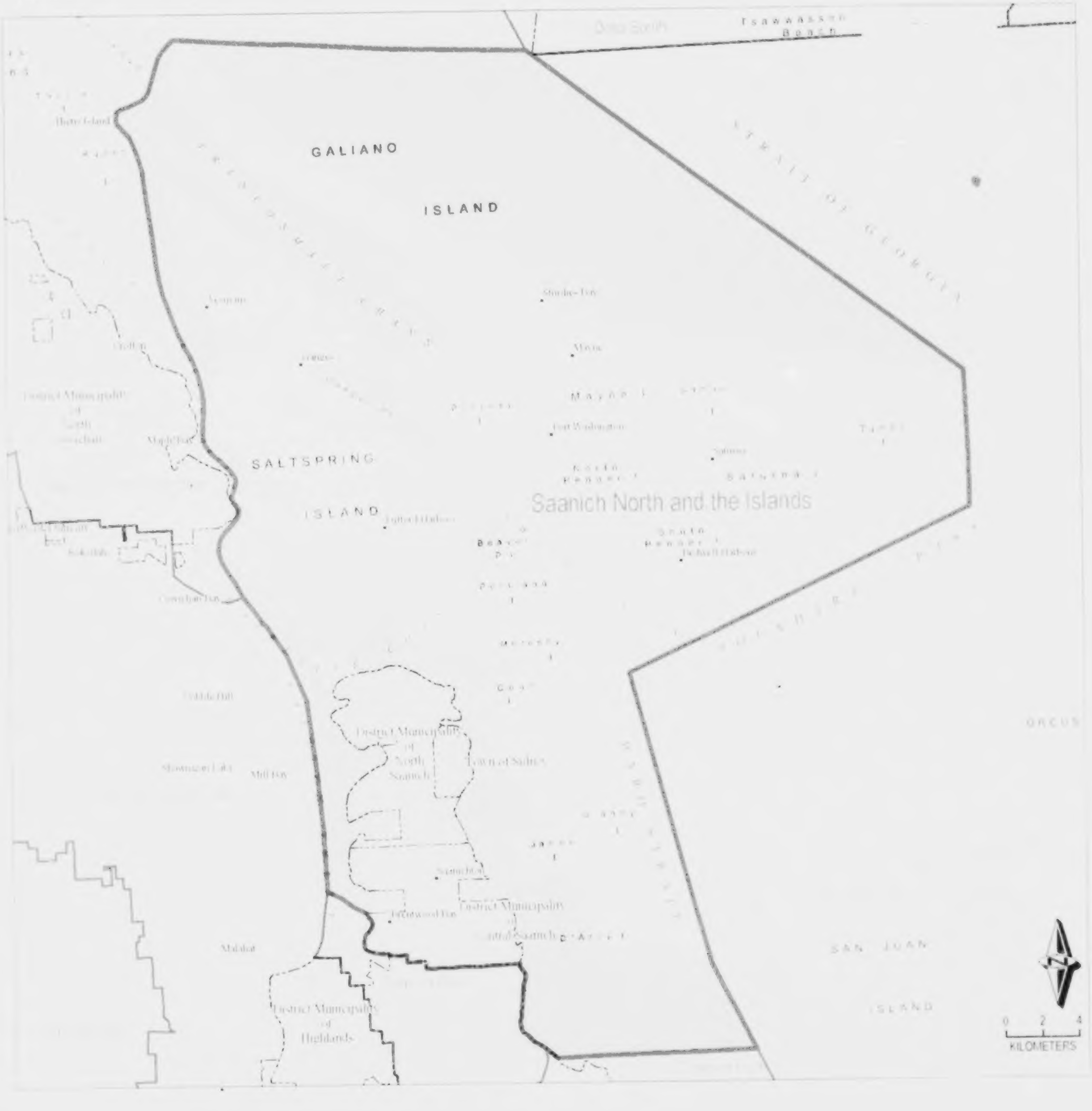
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Saanich North and the Islands Electoral District


Delta South
Tsawwassen
British Columbia
STRAIT OF GEORGIA
Thetis I
Thetis Island
Kuper I
GALIANO ISLAND
TRINCOMALI CHANNEL
Sturdies Bay
Vesuvius
Crofton
Ganges
Mayne
Mayne I
Samuel I
Prevost I
Port Washington
Tumbo I
Saturna
Saturna I
North Pender I
District Municipality of North Cowichan
Maple Bay
SALTSPRING ISLAND
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
City of Duncan
Koksilah
Fulford Harbour
Saanich North and the Islands
SWANSON CHAN
South Pender I
Bedwell Harbour
BOUNDARY PASS
Portland I
Cowichan Bay
Moresby I
Cobble Hill
RIVER
District Municipality of North Saanich
Town of Sidney
ORCUS
Shawnigan Lake
Mill Bay
Cowichan-Goldstream
Sidney I
HARO STRAIT
Saanichton
Brentwood Bay
District Municipality of Central Saanich
WASHINGTON
Malahat
SAN JUAN ISLAND
Saanich West
District Municipality of Highlands
Juan de Fuca
Saanich East
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

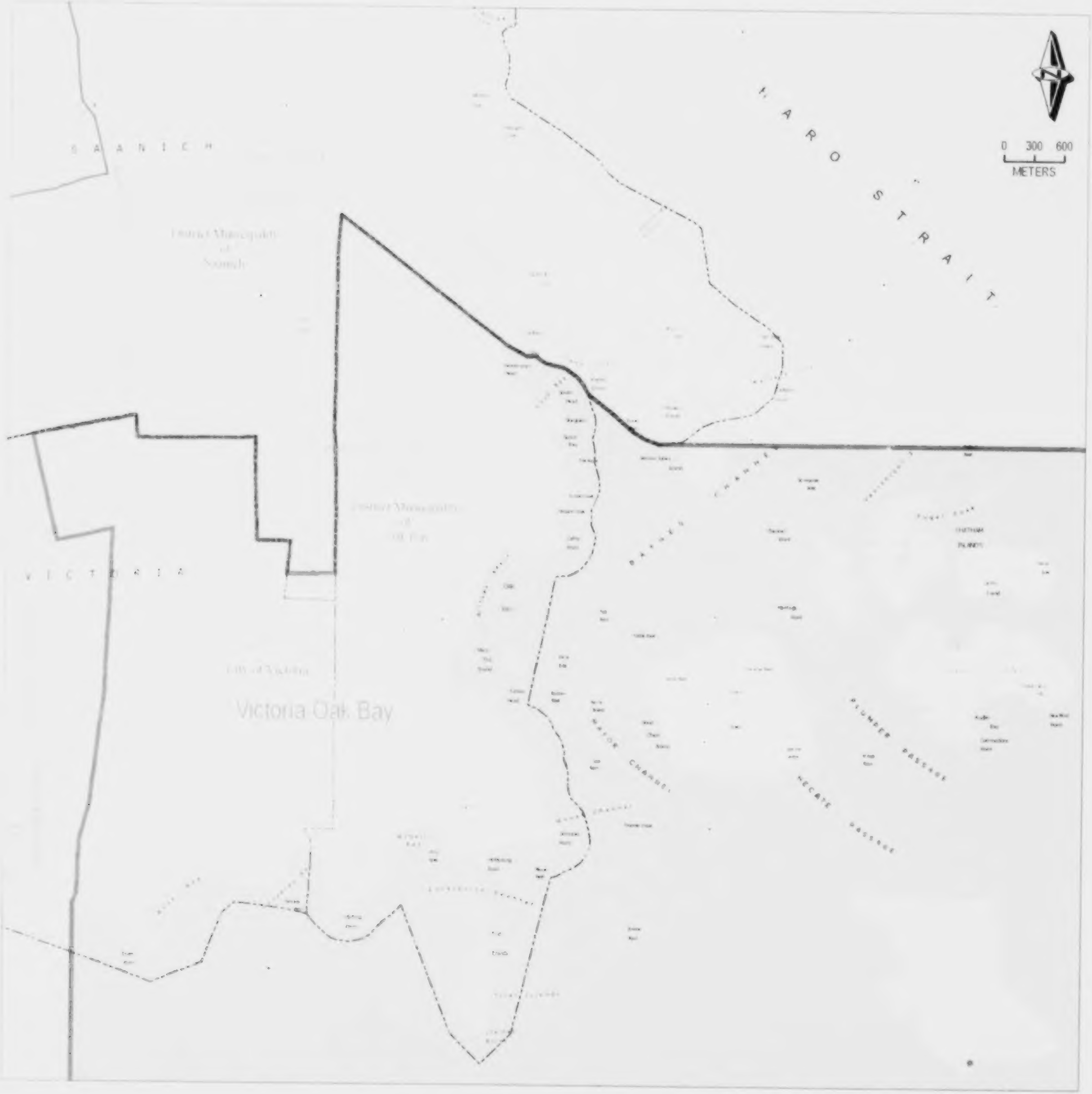
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Victoria–Oak Bay Electoral District


Blenkinsop Rd
Kenmore Rd
Tyndall Ave
San Juan Ave
Feltham Rd
GORDON HEAD
Gordon Head Rd
SAANICH
Saanich East
Edgelow St
McKenzie Ave
Blenkinsop Rd
Quadra St
District Municipality of Saanich
Arbutus Rd
Sinclair Rd
HARO STRAIT
0 300 600
METERS
Cedar Hill Cross Rd
Cedar Hill Rd
Maplewood Rd
Henderson Rd
Tudor Ave
North Dairy Rd
Lansdowne Rd
Cadboro Bay Rd
Shelbourne St
Richmond Rd
District Municipality of Oak Bay
Hillside Ave
VICTORIA
OAK
Bay St
Beach Dr
CHATHAM ISLANDS
Douglas St
Quadra St
Fort St
Foul Bay Rd
BAY
Pandora Ave
City of Victoria
Oak Bay Ave
DISCOVERY ISLAND
DISCOVERY ISLAND
Blanshard St
Yates St
Fort St
Newport Ave
Victoria-Oak Bay
St Charles St
Moss St
McNeill Ave
Vancouver St
Richmond Ave
Richardson St
Victoria-Esquimalt
Transit Rd
Cook St
King George Terr
Dallas Rd
British Columbia

Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Saanich North and the Islands Electoral Distric

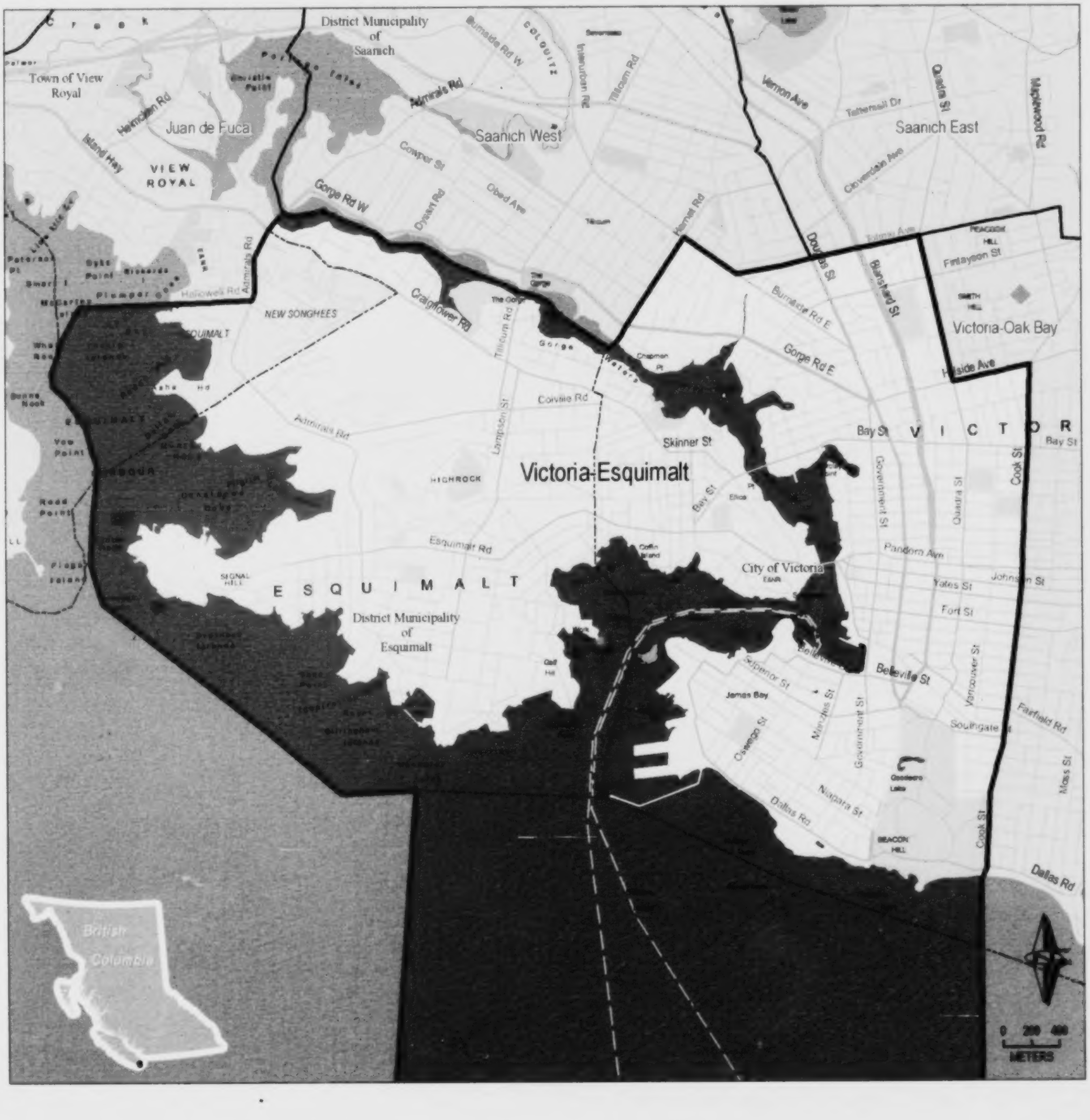

Delta South
Tsawwassen Beach
Thetis Island
GALIANO ISLAND
STRAIT OF GEORGIA
Vesuvius
Sturdies Bay
Crofton
Ganges
Miners Bay
District Municipality of North Cowichan
Mayne I.
Port Washington
Maple Bay
SALTSPRING ISLAND
Saturna
North Pender I.
Saturna I.
Saanich North and the Islands
ISLAND
Fulford Harbour
South Pender I.
Bedwell Harbour
Cowichan Bay
Portland I.
Moresby I.
Cobble Hill
District Municipality of North Saanich
Town of Sidney
Shawnigan Lake
Mill Bay
ORCAS
James I.
Saanichton
Brentwood Bay
District Municipality of Central Saanich
D'Arcy I.
Malahat
SAN JUAN ISLAND
District Municipality of Highlands
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Victoria-Oak Bay Electoral District

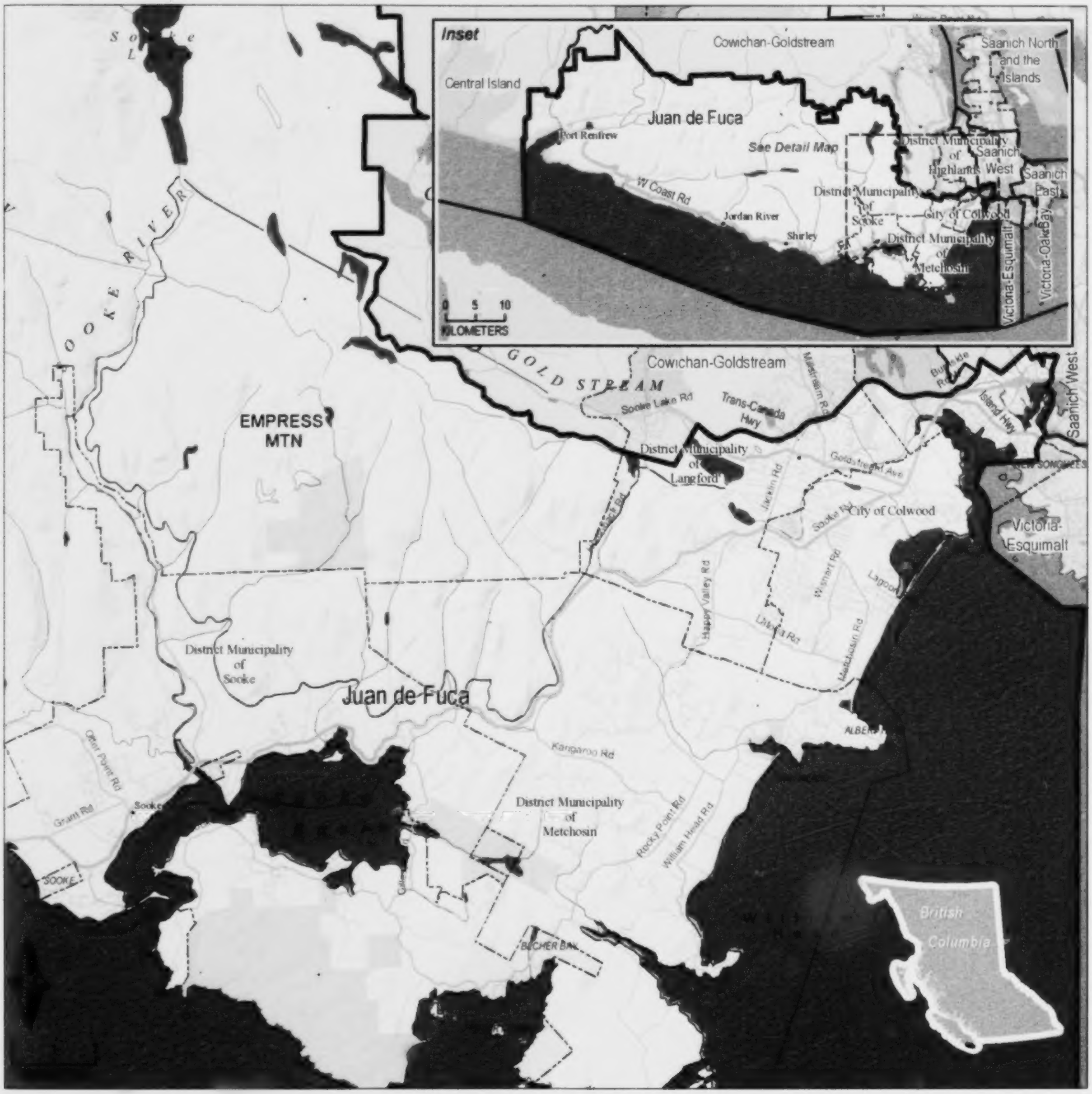


SAANICH
District Municipality of Saanich
HARO STRAIT
0 300 600
METERS
District Municipality of Oak Bay
VICTORIA
City of Victoria
Victoria-Oak Bay
BAYNES CHANNEL
CHATHAM ISLANDS
MAYOR CHANNEL
PLUMPER PASSAGE
HECATE PASSAGE

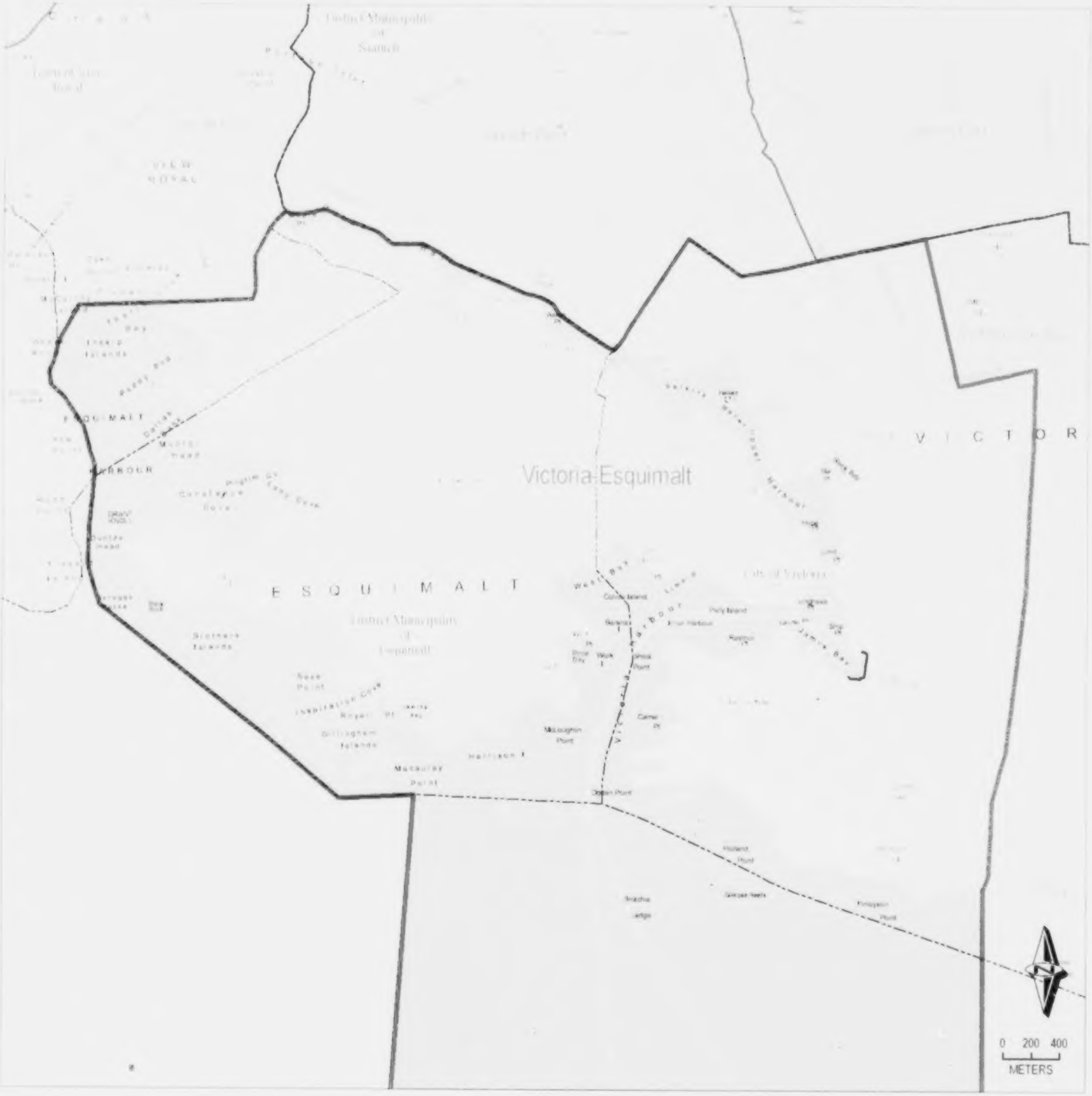
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Victoria-Esquimalt Electoral District


District Municipality of Saanich
Town of View Royal
Juan de Fuca
VIEW ROYAL
Saanich West
Saanich East
Victoria-Oak Bay
Victoria-Esquimalt
NEW SONGHEES
ESQUIMALT
District Municipality of Esquimalt
City of Victoria
VICTOR
HIGHROCK
SIGNAL HILL
Burnside Rd W
Colquitz
Interurban Rd
Tillicum Rd
Admirals Rd
Helmcken Rd
Island Hwy
Cowper St
Obed Ave
Dysart Rd
Gorge Rd W
Harriet Rd
Vernon Ave
Tattersall Dr
Quadra St
Maplewood Rd
Cloverdale Ave
Douglas St
Blanshard St
Finlayson St
Burnside Rd E
Gorge Rd E
Hillside Ave
Craigflower Rd
Hallowell Rd
Gorge Waters
Craigflower Rd
Lampson St
Admirals Rd
Skinner St
Bay St
Government St
Quadra St
Cook St
Bay St
Esquimalt Rd
Pandora Ave
Johnson St
Yates St
Fort St
Belleville St
Superior St
James Bay
Menzies St
Oswego St
Government St
Vancouver St
Southgate St
Fairfield Rd
Moss St
Niagara St
Dallas Rd
Cook St
Dallas Rd
BEACON HILL
SMITH HILL
British Columbia
0 200 400
METERS

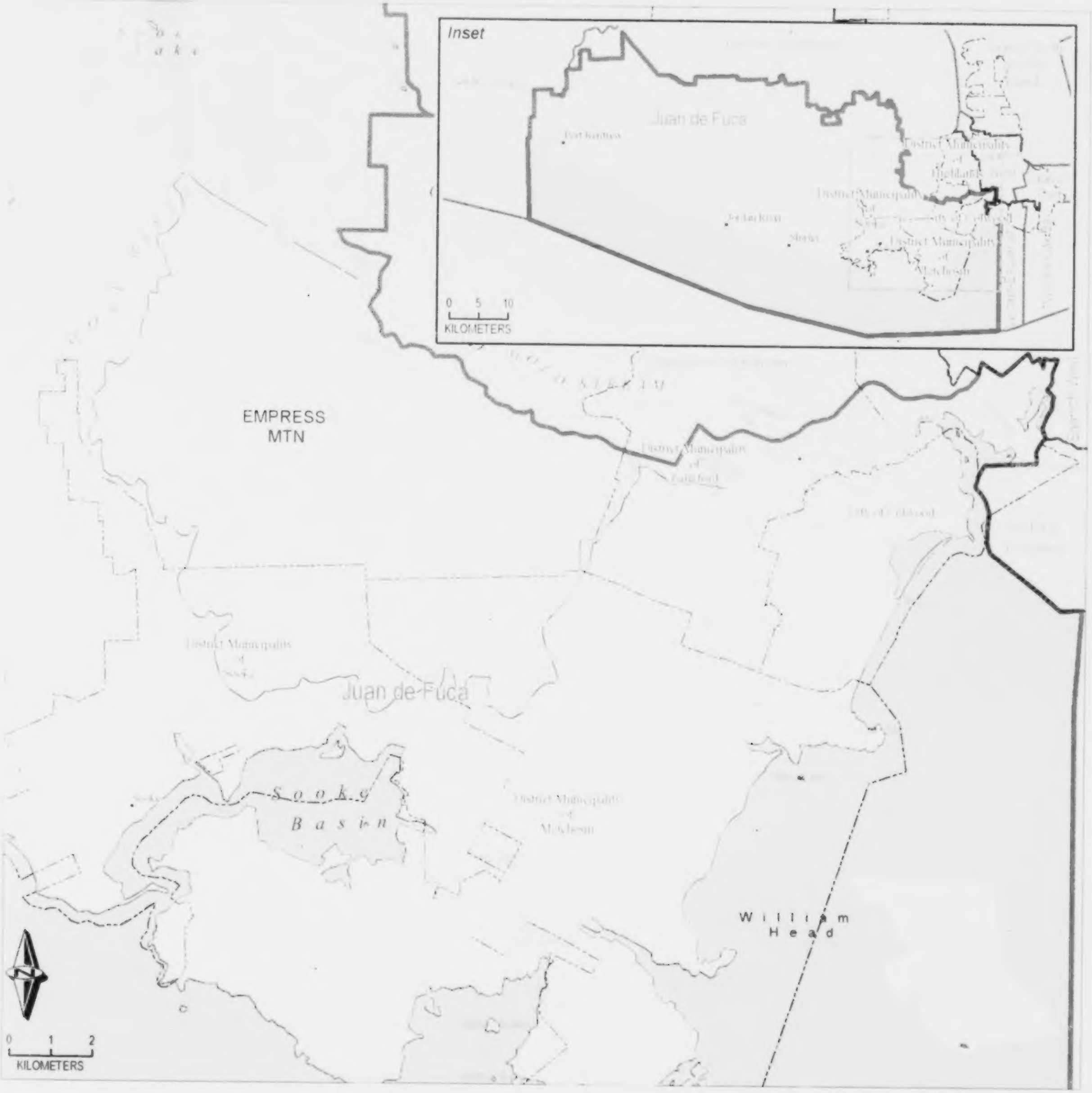
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Juan de Fuca Electoral District


Inset
Central Island
Cowichan-Goldstream
Saanich North and the Islands
Juan de Fuca
Port Renfrew
See Detail Map
District Municipality of Highlands
Saanich West
Saanich East
W Coast Rd
Jordan River
Shirley
District Municipality of Sooke
City of Colwood
District Municipality of Metchosin
Victoria-Esquimalt
Victoria-Oak Bay
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
SOOKE RIVER
GOLDSTREAM
Cowichan-Goldstream
EMPRESS MTN
Sooke Lake Rd
Trans-Canada Hwy
Millstream Rd
Burnside Rd
Island Hwy
Saanich West
District Municipality of Langford
Jacklin Rd
Goldstream Ave
NEW SONGHEES
Sooke Rd
City of Colwood
Victoria-Esquimalt
Happy Valley Rd
Wishart Rd
Lagoon
Latoria Rd
Metchosin Rd
District Municipality of Sooke
Juan de Fuca
ALBERT
Kangaroo Rd
Otter Point Rd
Grant Rd
Sooke
SOOKE
District Municipality of Metchosin
Rocky Point Rd
William Head Rd
BECHER BAY
British Columbia

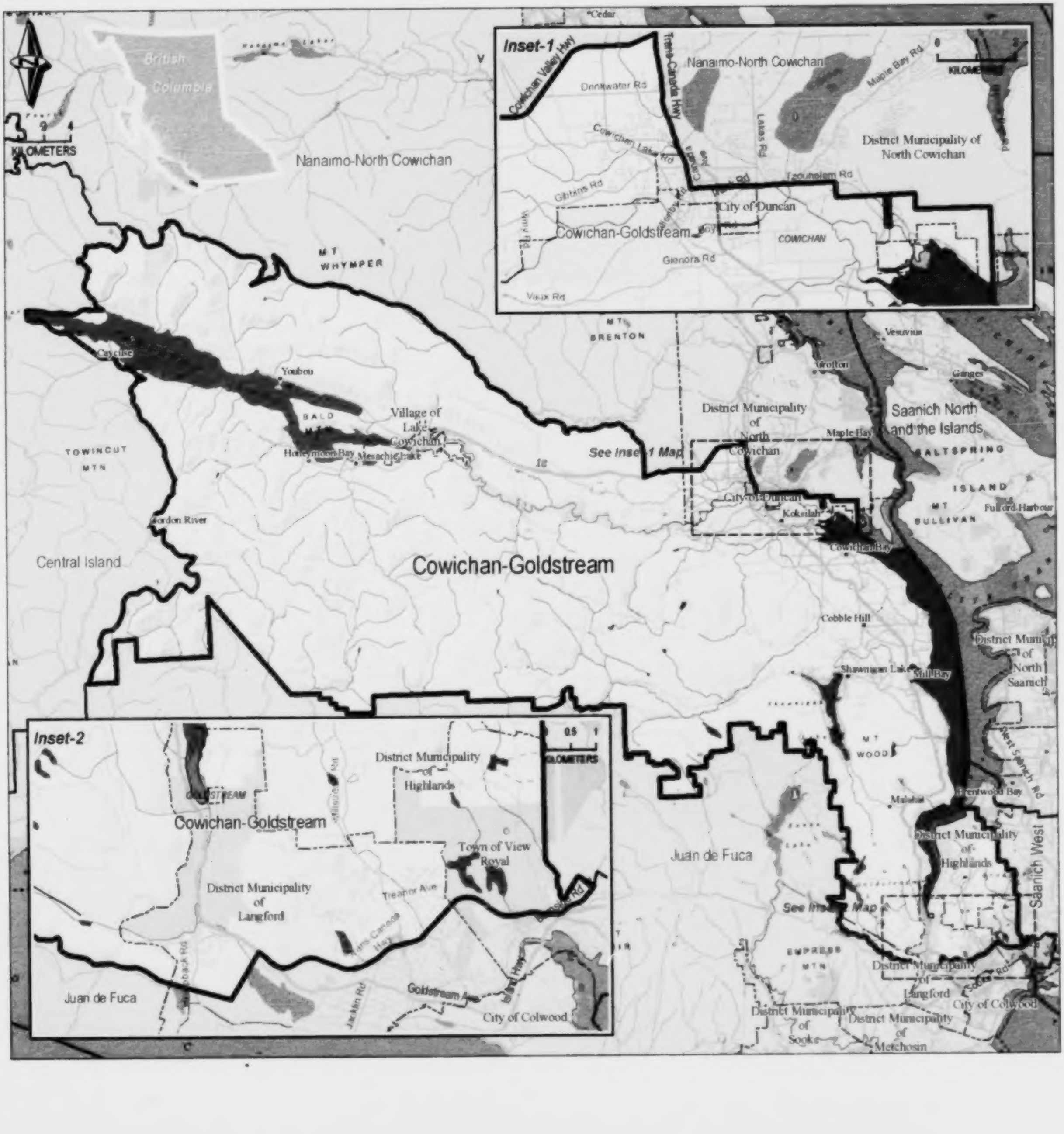
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Victoria-Esquimalt Electoral District


District Municipality
of
Saanich
VIEW ROYAL
ESQUIMALT
HARBOUR
Thetis Islands
Dallas Bank
Munroe Head
Constance Cove
Duntze Head
Brothers Islands
ESQUIMALT
District Municipality
of
Esquimalt
Inspiration Cove
Royal Pt
Dillingham Islands
Harrison I
Macaulay Point
McLoughlin Point
Victoria-Esquimalt
Selkirk Water
Upper Harbour
West Bay
Colville Island
Inner Harbour
Pelly Island
City of Victoria
James Bay
Shoal Point
Work I
Camel Pt
Ogden Point
Holland Point
Brotchie Ledge
Finlayson Point
V I C T O R
0 200 400
METERS

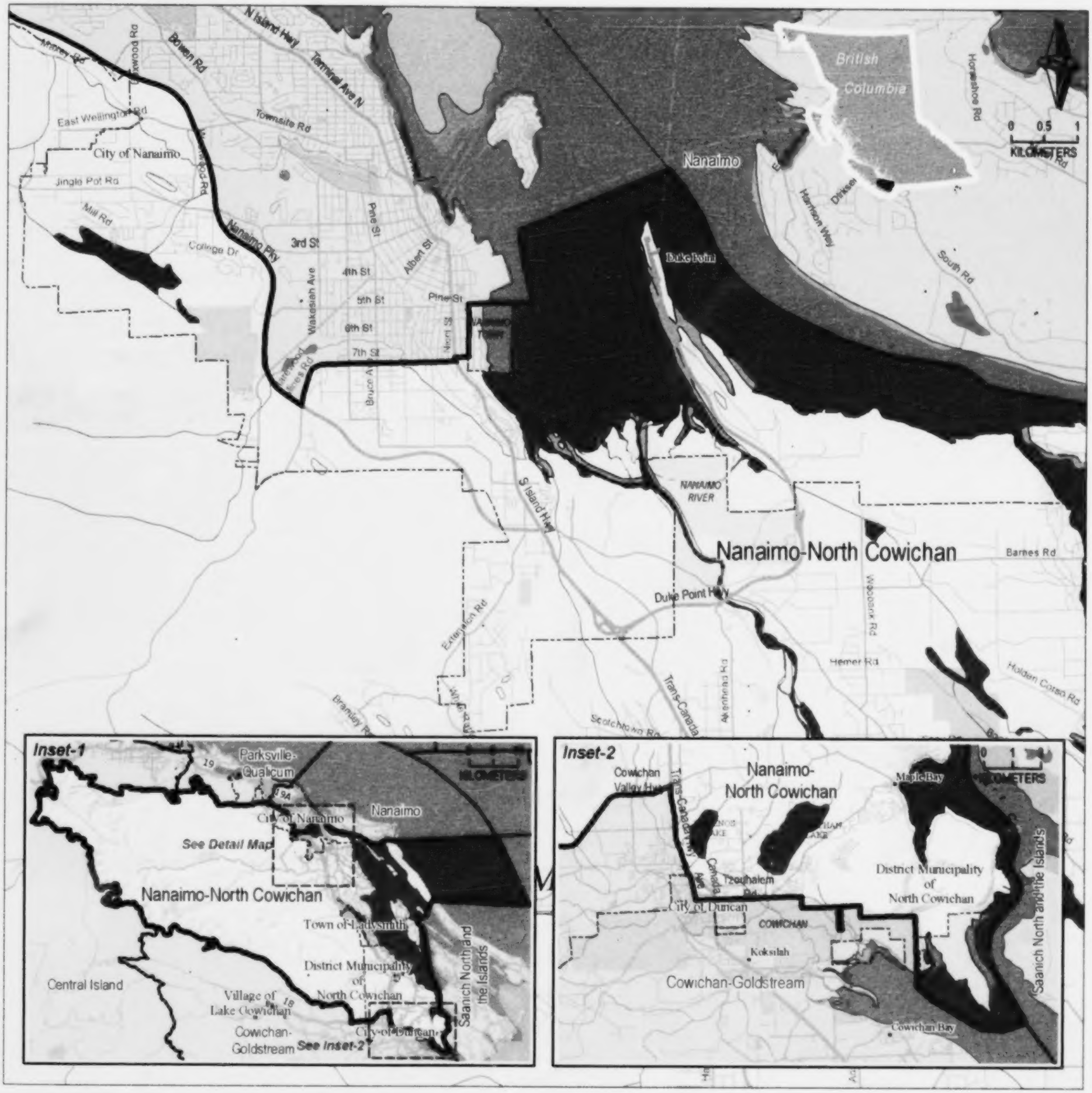
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Juan de Fuca Electoral District


Inset
Juan de Fuca
Port Renfrew
District Municipality of Highlands
District Municipality of Sooke
Jordan River
Shirley
City of Colwood
District Municipality of Metchosin
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
EMPRESS MTN
District Municipality of Langford
City of Colwood
District Municipality of Sooke
Juan de Fuca
Sooke Basin
District Municipality of Metchosin
William Head
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

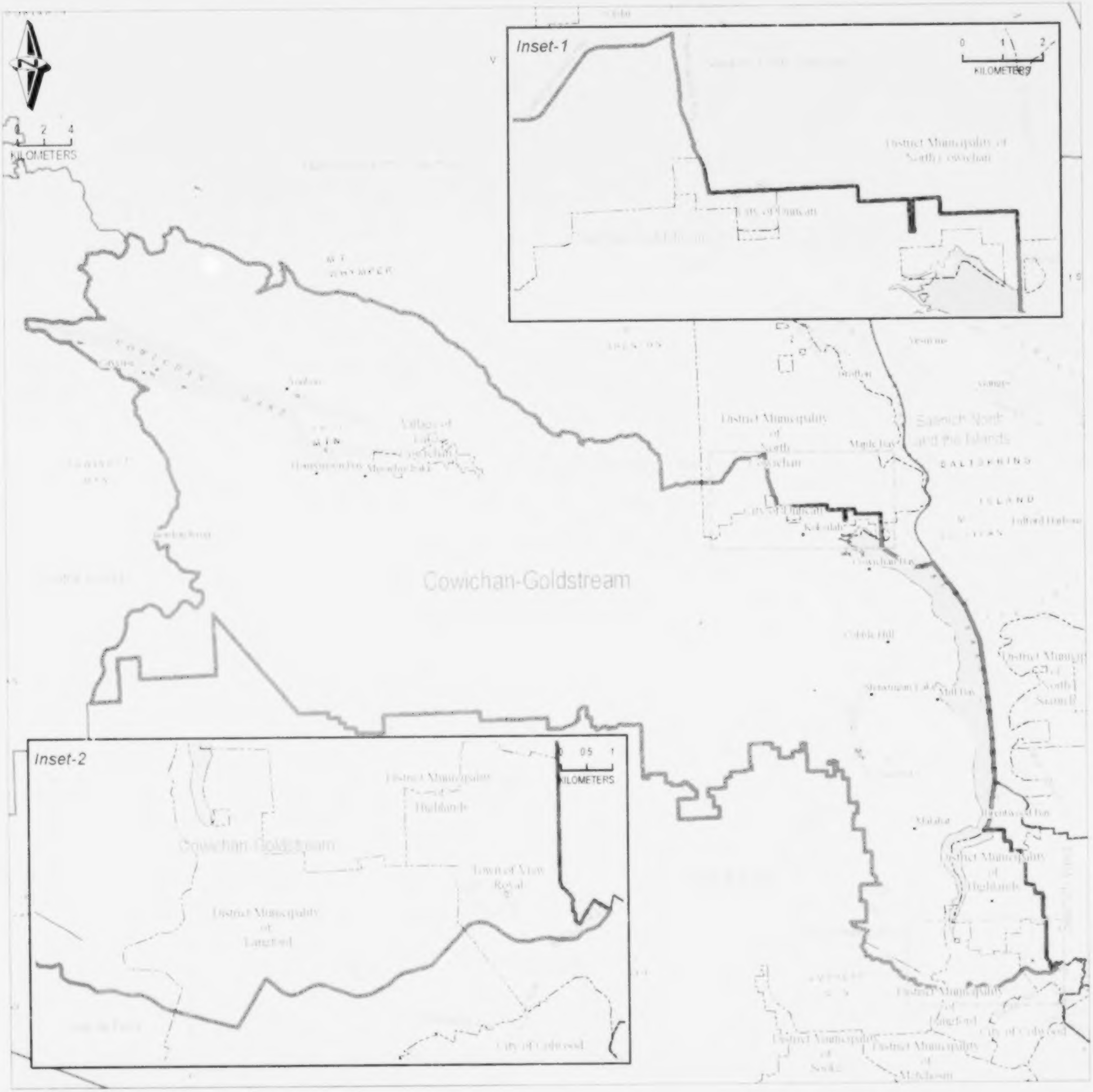
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Cowichan-Goldstream Electoral District


British Columbia
KILOMETERS
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
MT WHYMPER
MT BRENTON
Cowichan-Goldstream
Central Island
Juan de Fuca
TOWINCUT MTN
BALD MTN
Caycuse
Youbou
Village of Lake Cowichan
Honeymoon Bay
Mesachie Lake
Gordon River
See Inset-1 Map
District Municipality of North Cowichan
City of Duncan
Koksilah
Cowichan Bay
Cobble Hill
Shawnigan Lake
Mill Bay
MT WOOD
Malahat
Brentwood Bay
District Municipality of Highlands
Saanich West
See Inset-2 Map
EMPRESS MTN
District Municipality of Langford
City of Colwood
District Municipality of Sooke
District Municipality of Metchosin
Sooke Rd
West Saanich Rd
District Municipality of North Saanich
Saanich North and the Islands
SALTSPRING ISLAND
MT SULLIVAN
Fulford Harbour
Ganges
Vesuvius
Crofton
Maple Bay
Cedar
Inset-1
Cowichan Valley Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
Drinkwater Rd
Cowichan Lake Rd
Gibbins Rd
Lakes Rd
Maple Bay Rd
Tzouhalem Rd
Glenora Rd
Vaux Rd
COWICHAN
District Municipality of North Cowichan
Inset-2
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
GOLDSTREAM
District Municipality of Highlands
Town of View Royal
Treanor Ave
Trans-Canada Hwy
Goldstream Ave
Island Hwy
Jacklin Rd
District Municipality of Langford
City of Colwood

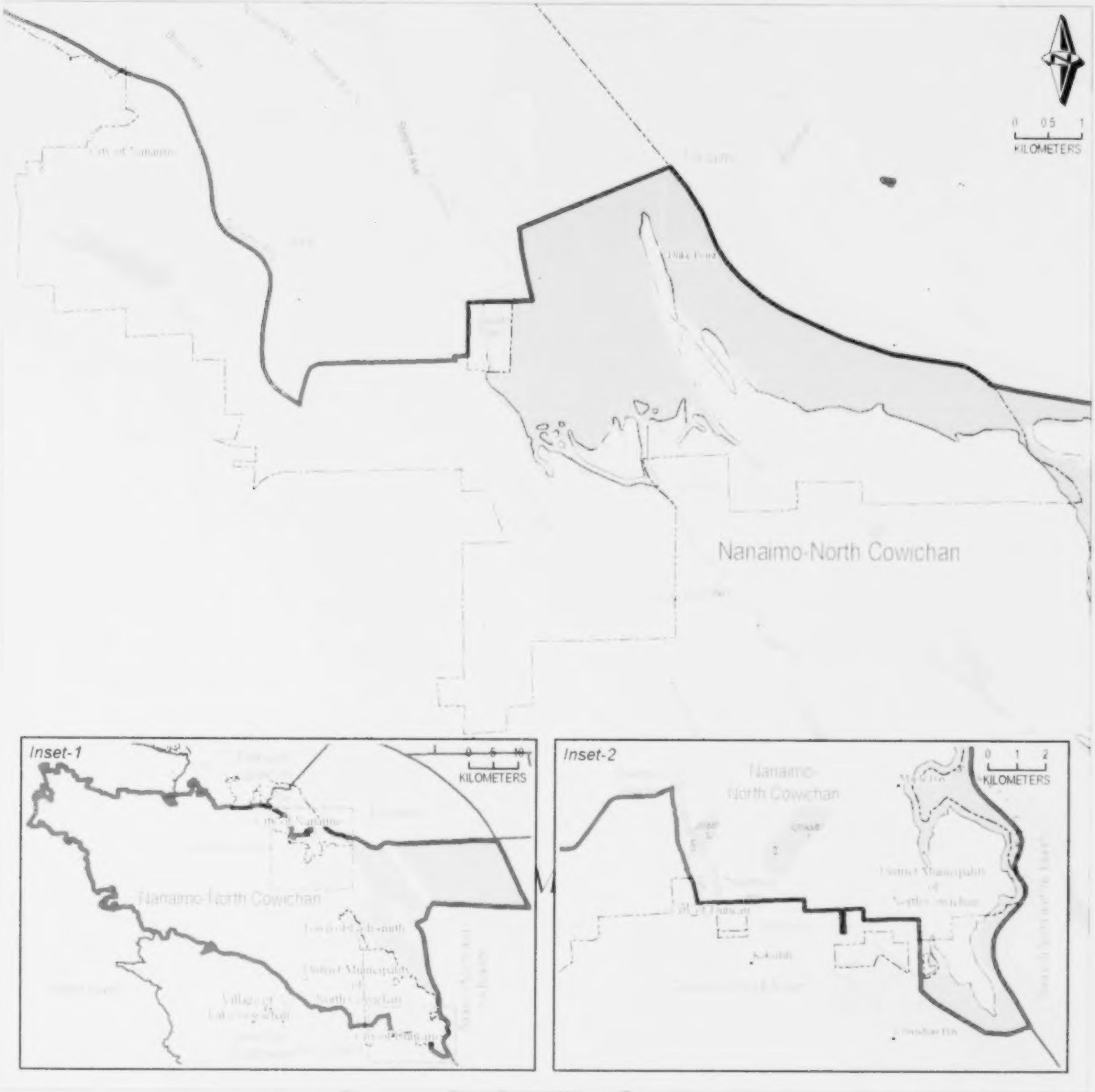
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Nanaimo–North Cowichan Electoral District


British Columbia
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
Nanaimo
City of Nanaimo
East Wellington Rd
Jingle Pot Rd
Mill Rd
College Dr
Bowen Rd
N Island Hwy
Terminal Ave N
Townsite Rd
Nanaimo Pky
3rd St
4th St
5th St
6th St
7th St
Pine St
Albert St
Wakesiah Ave
Bruce Ave
Duke Point
Harrison Way
Dirksen
South Rd
Horseshoe Rd
NANAIMO RIVER
S Island Hwy
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Barnes Rd
Duke Point Hwy
Extension Rd
Trans-Canada
Hemer Rd
Holden Corso Rd
Scotchtown Rd
Inset-1
Parksville-Qualicum
19
19A
City of Nanaimo
Nanaimo
See Detail Map
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Town of Ladysmith
District Municipality of North Cowichan
Central Island
Village of Lake Cowichan
18
Cowichan-Goldstream
See Inset-2
City of Duncan
Saanich North and the Islands
KILOMETERS
Inset-2
Cowichan Valley Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Maple Bay
KILOMETERS
Tzouhalem Rd
City of Duncan
COWICHAN
Koksilah
District Municipality of North Cowichan
Cowichan-Goldstream
Cowichan Bay
Saanich North and the Islands

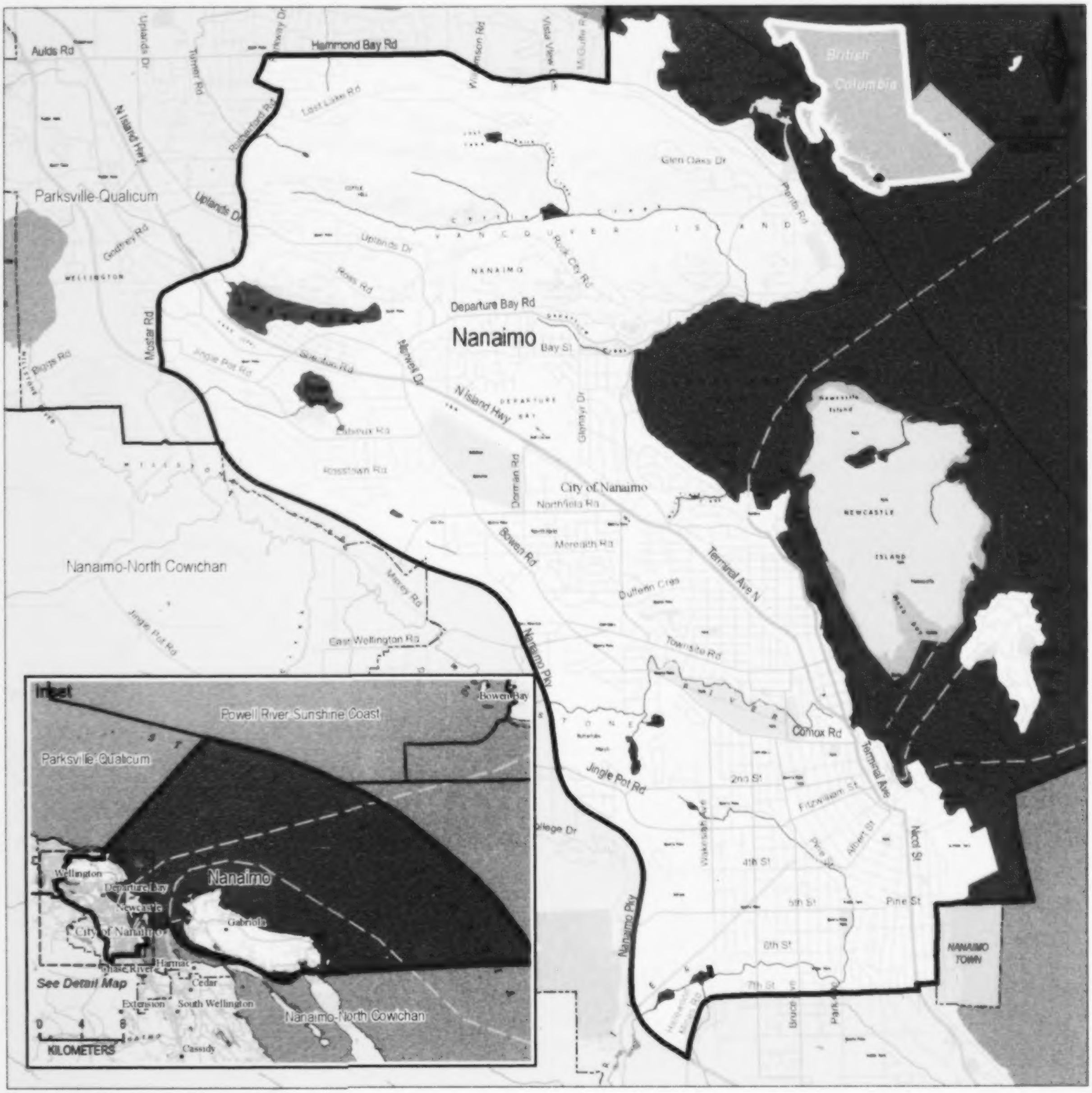
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Cowichan-Goldstream Electoral District


Inset-1
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
District Municipality of North Cowichan
City of Duncan
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
MT WHYMPER
COWICHAN LAKE
Youbou
Village of Lake Cowichan
Honeymoon Bay
Mesachie Lake
Crofton
Vesuvius
Ganges
District Municipality of North Cowichan
Maple Bay
Saanich North and the Islands
SALTSPRING ISLAND
Fulford Harbour
City of Duncan
Cowichan Bay
Cowichan-Goldstream
Cobble Hill
Shawnigan Lake
Mill Bay
District Municipality of North Saanich
Malahat
Brentwood Bay
District Municipality of Highlands
Inset-2
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
District Municipality of Highlands
Cowichan-Goldstream
Town of View Royal
District Municipality of Langford
City of Colwood
District Municipality of Langford
City of Colwood
District Municipality of Sooke
District Municipality of Metchosin

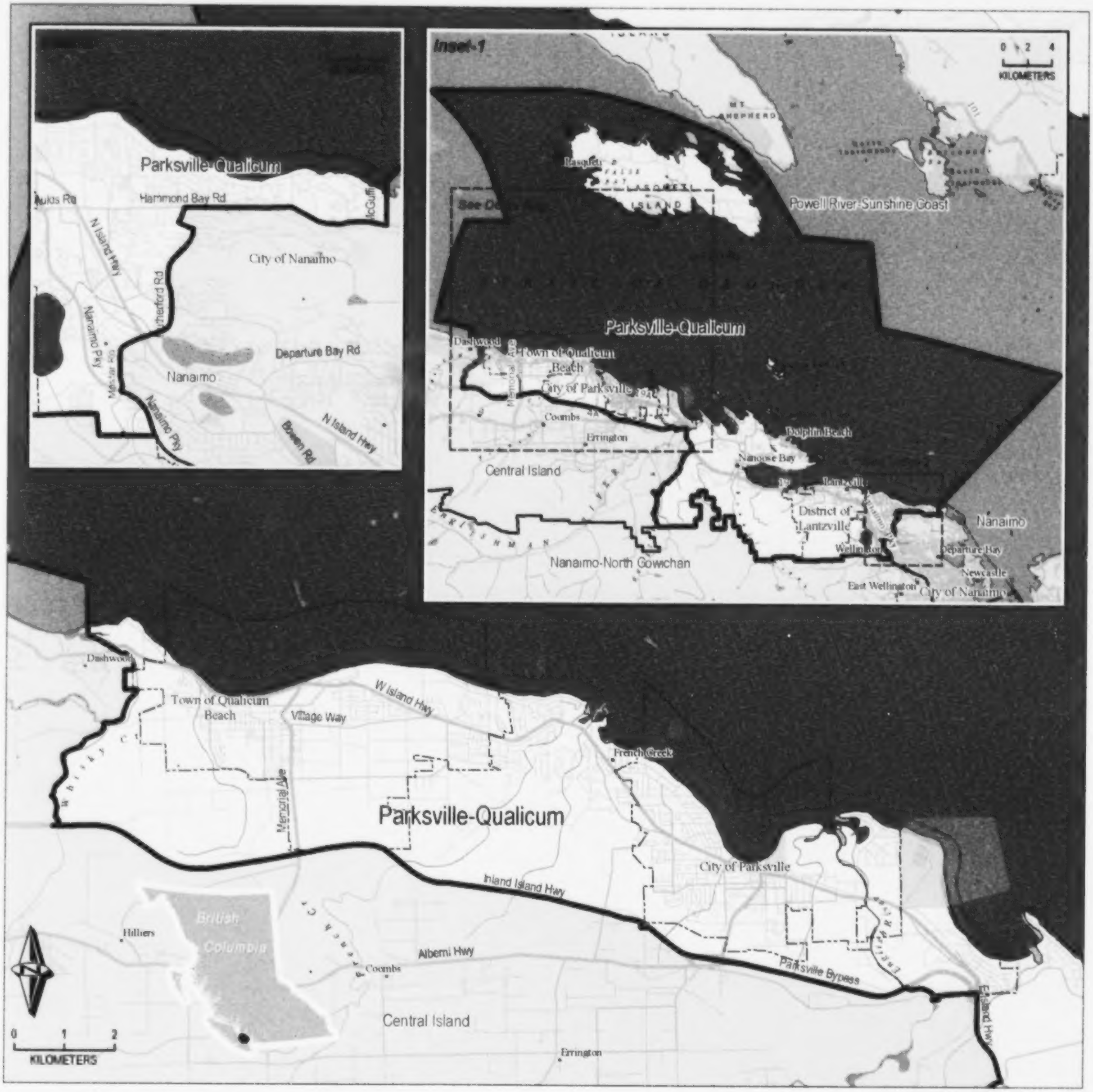
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Nanaimo–North Cowichan Electoral District


0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
City of Nanaimo
Duke Point
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Inset-1
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
City of Nanaimo
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Town of Ladysmith
District Municipality of North Cowichan
Village of Lake Cowichan
City of Duncan
Inset-2
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
District Municipality of North Cowichan
City of Duncan

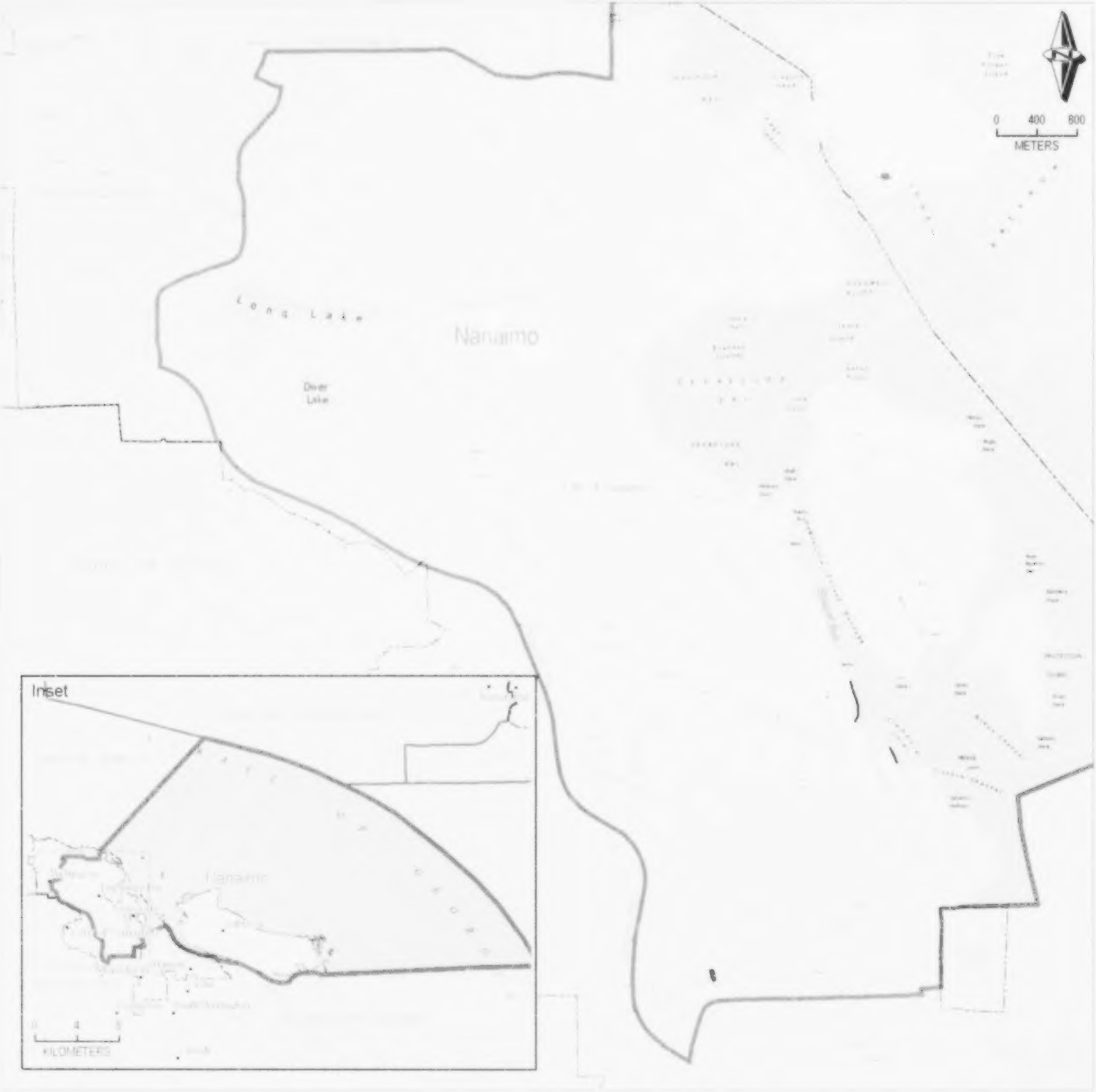
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Nanaimo Electoral District


Hammond Bay Rd
Aulds Rd
Uplands Dr
Turner Rd
Williamson Rd
Vista View Cres
McGuffie Rd
Lost Lake Rd
Rutherford Rd
N Island Hwy
Glen Oaks Dr
British Columbia
Parksville-Qualicum
Uplands Dr
Godfrey Rd
Uplands Dr
VANCOUVER ISLAND
Rock City Rd
NANAIMO
Ross Rd
Departure Bay Rd
Nanaimo
Bay St
Mostar Rd
Biggs Rd
Jingle Pot Rd
Hammond Rd
Labieux Rd
N Island Hwy
DEPARTURE BAY
Glenayr Dr
Newcastle Island
NEWCASTLE ISLAND
Rosstown Rd
Dorman Rd
City of Nanaimo
Northfield Rd
Bowen Rd
Meredith Rd
Terminal Ave N
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Mexley Rd
Dufferin Cres
Jingle Pot Rd
East Wellington Rd
Townsite Rd
Nanaimo Pky
Comox Rd
Terminal Ave
Jingle Pot Rd
2nd St
Fitzwilliam St
College Dr
Wakesiah Ave
4th St
Pine St
Albert St
Nicol St
5th St
Pine St
6th St
Nanaimo Pky
NANAIMO TOWN
7th St
Bruce Ave
Park Ave
Inset
Bowen Bay
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Parksville-Qualicum
Wellington
Departure Bay
Nanaimo
Newcastle
Gabriola
City of Nanaimo
Harmac
Chase River
Cedar
See Detail Map
Extension
South Wellington
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
0 4 8
KILOMETERS
Cassidy

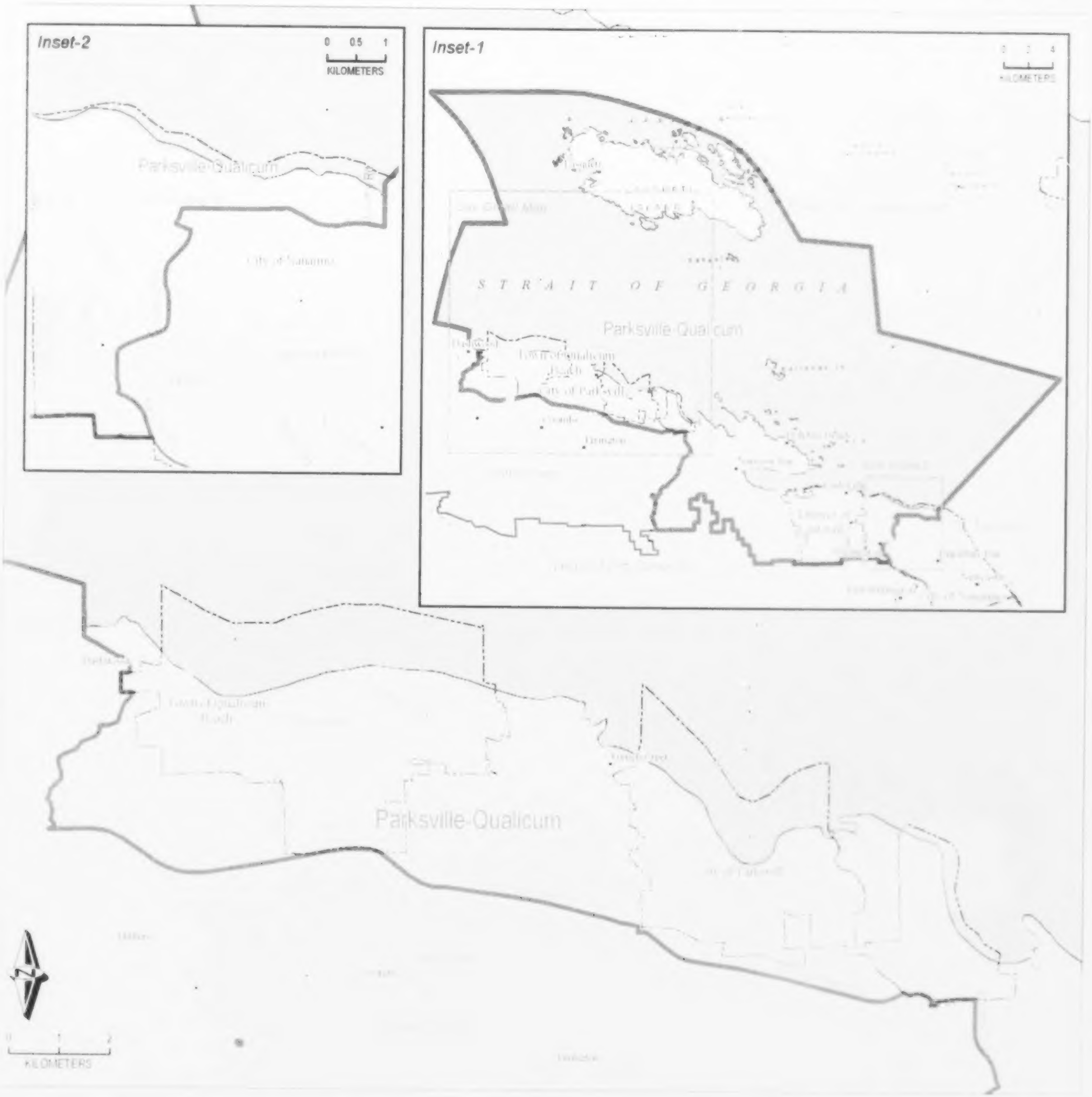
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District


Parksville-Qualicum
Aulds Rd
Hammond Bay Rd
McGuff
N Island Hwy
City of Nanaimo
Rutherford Rd
Nanaimo Pky
Departure Bay Rd
Nanaimo
Nanaimo Pky
Bowen Rd
N Island Hwy
Inset-1
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
MT SHEPHERD
Lasqueti
FALSE BAY
LASQUETI ISLAND
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
See Detail Map
Parksville-Qualicum
Dashwood
Town of Qualicum Beach
Memorial Ave
City of Parksville
Coombs
Errington
Dolphin Beach
Nanoose Bay
Central Island
ENGLISHMAN RIVER
District of Lantzville
Wellington
Nanaimo
Departure Bay
Newcastle
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
East Wellington
City of Nanaimo
Dashwood
Town of Qualicum Beach
Village Way
W Island Hwy
Whisky Cr
French Creek
Memorial Ave
Parksville-Qualicum
City of Parksville
Inland Island Hwy
Hilliers
British Columbia
French Cr
Alberni Hwy
Coombs
Parksville Bypass
Englishman R
E Island Hwy
Central Island
Errington
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

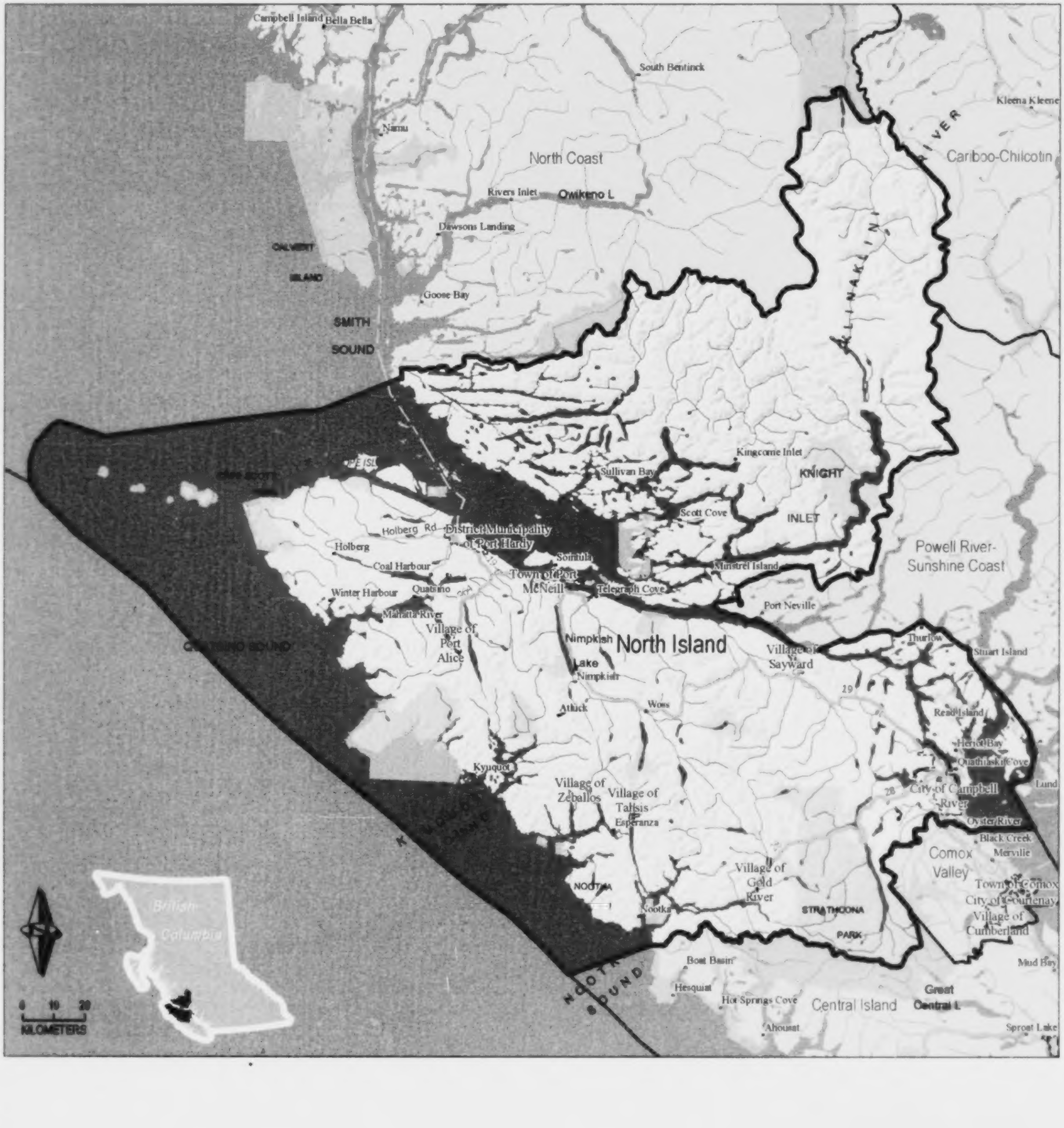
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Nanaimo Electoral District


Long Lake
Nanaimo
Diver Lake
0 400 800
METERS
Inset
Nanaimo
0 4 8
KILOMETERS

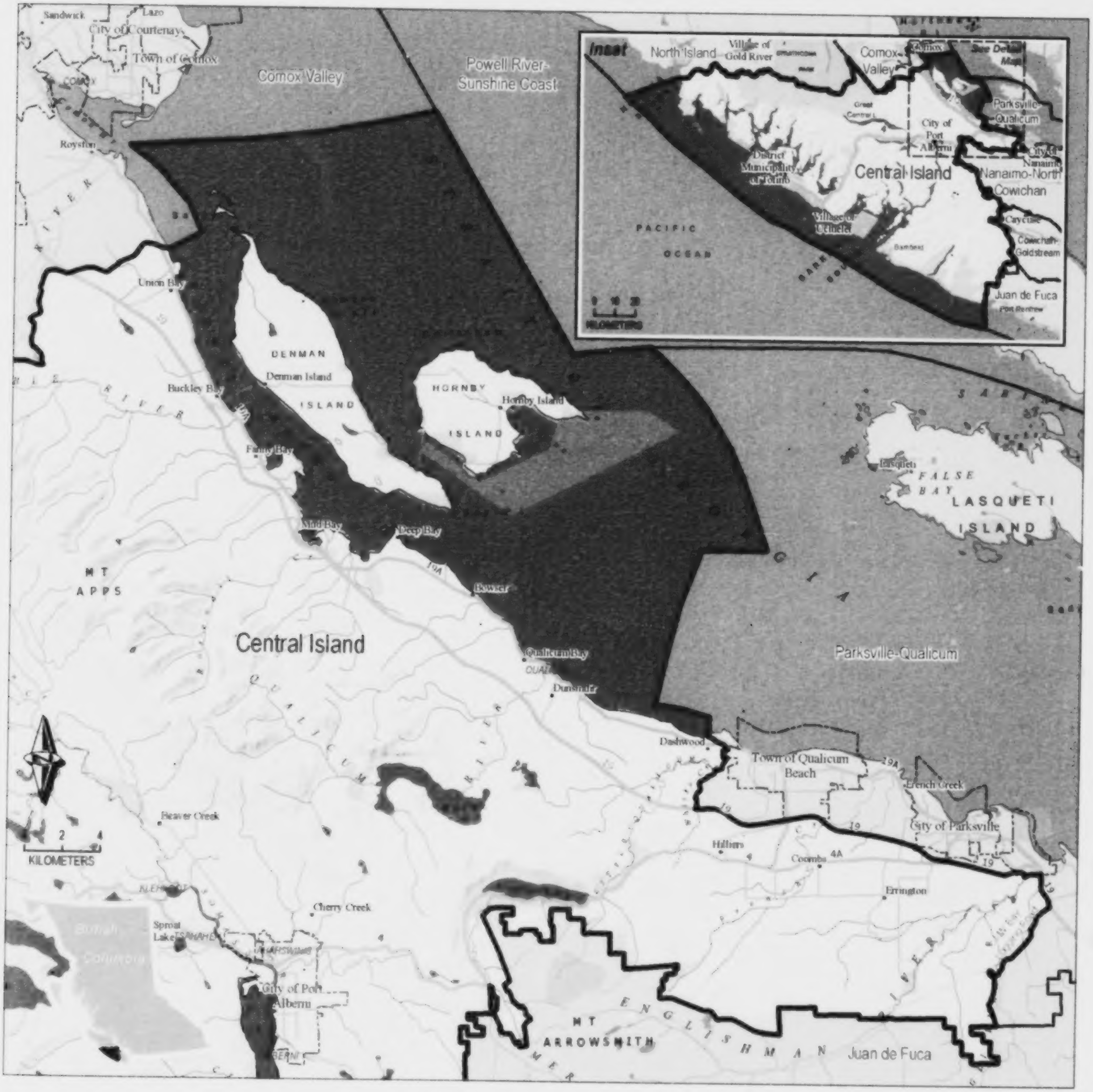
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District


Inset-2
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
Parksville-Qualicum
City of Nanaimo
Inset-1
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
S T R A I T O F G E O R G I A
Parksville-Qualicum
Town of Qualicum Beach
City of Parksville
Coombs
Errington
Town of Qualicum Beach
Parksville-Qualicum
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

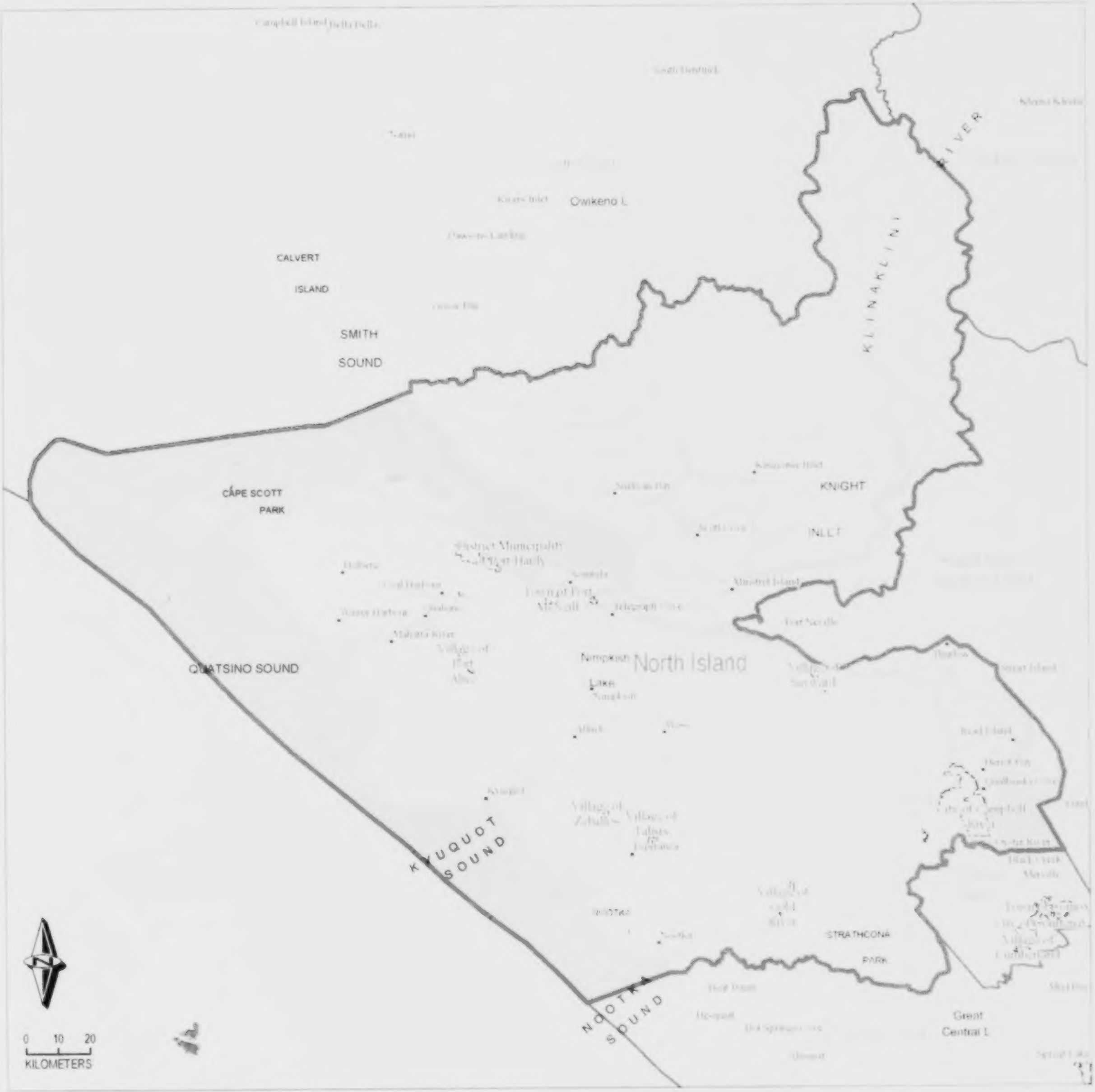
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed North Island Electoral District


Campbell Island
Bella Bella
South Bentinck
Kleena Kleene
Namu
North Coast
Cariboo-Chilcotin
RIVER
Rivers Inlet
Owikeno L
Dawsons Landing
CALVERT
ISLAND
KLINAKLINI
Goose Bay
SMITH
SOUND
Kingcome Inlet
Sullivan Bay
KNIGHT
INLET
Scott Cove
Holberg Rd
District Municipality of Port Hardy
Holberg
Sointula
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Coal Harbour
Town of Port McNeill
Minstrel Island
Winter Harbour
Quatsino
Telegraph Cove
Mahatta River
Port Neville
Village of Port Alice
Nimpkish
Lake
North Island
Village of Sayward
Thurlow
Stuart Island
Nimpkish
Atluck
Woss
19
Read Island
Heriot Bay
Quathiaski Cove
Kyuquot
Village of Zeballos
Village of Tahsis
Lund
City of Campbell River
28
Esperanza
Oyster River
Black Creek
Merville
Comox Valley
Village of Gold River
Town of Comox
City of Courtenay
Village of Cumberland
NOOTKA
Nootka
STRATHCONA
PARK
British Columbia
Boat Basin
Mud Bay
NOOTKA SOUND
Hesquiat
Hot Springs Cove
Central Island
Great Central L
Ahousat
Sproat Lake
0 10 20
KILOMETERS

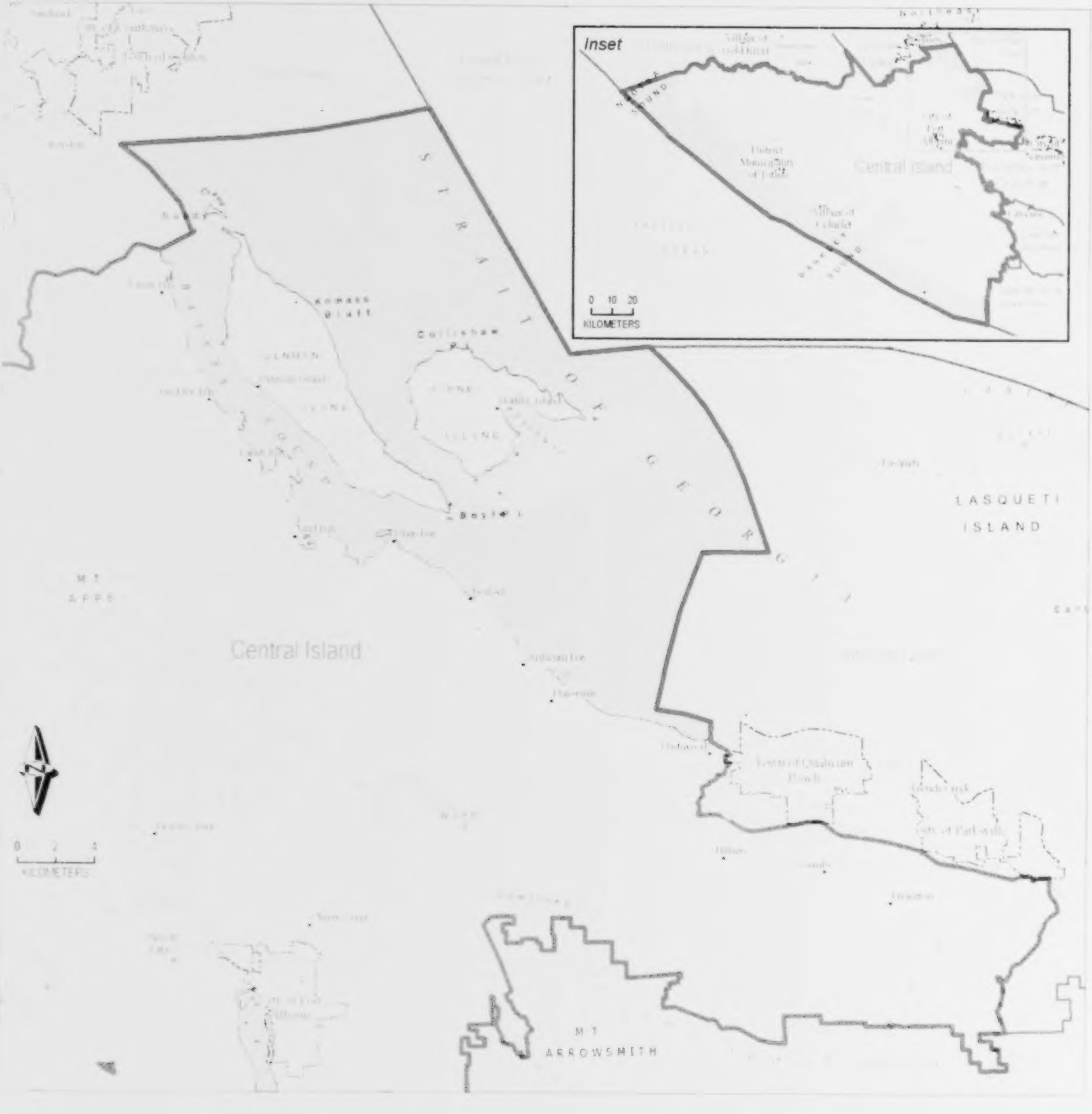
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Central Island Electoral District


Sandwick
Lazo
City of Courtenay
Town of Comox
Comox Valley
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Royston
Union Bay
Buckley Bay
Fanny Bay
Mud Bay
Deep Bay
Bowser
Qualicum Bay
Dunsmuir
Dashwood
DENMAN
Denman Island
ISLAND
HORNBY
Hornby Island
ISLAND
MT APPS
Central Island
QUALICUM
Lasqueti
FALSE BAY
LASQUETI ISLAND
Parksville-Qualicum
Town of Qualicum Beach
French Creek
City of Parksville
Hilliers
Coombs
Errington
Beaver Creek
Cherry Creek
Sproat Lake
City of Port Alberni
MT ARROWSMITH
ENGLISHMAN
Juan de Fuca
British Columbia
2
4
KILOMETERS
Inset
North Island
Village of Gold River
Comox Valley
Comox
See Detail Map
Parksville-Qualicum
City of Port Alberni
City of Nanaimo
Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Central Island
District Municipality of Tofino
Village of Ucluelet
PACIFIC OCEAN
Cowichan-Goldstream
Juan de Fuca
Port Renfrew
0 10 20
KILOMETERS

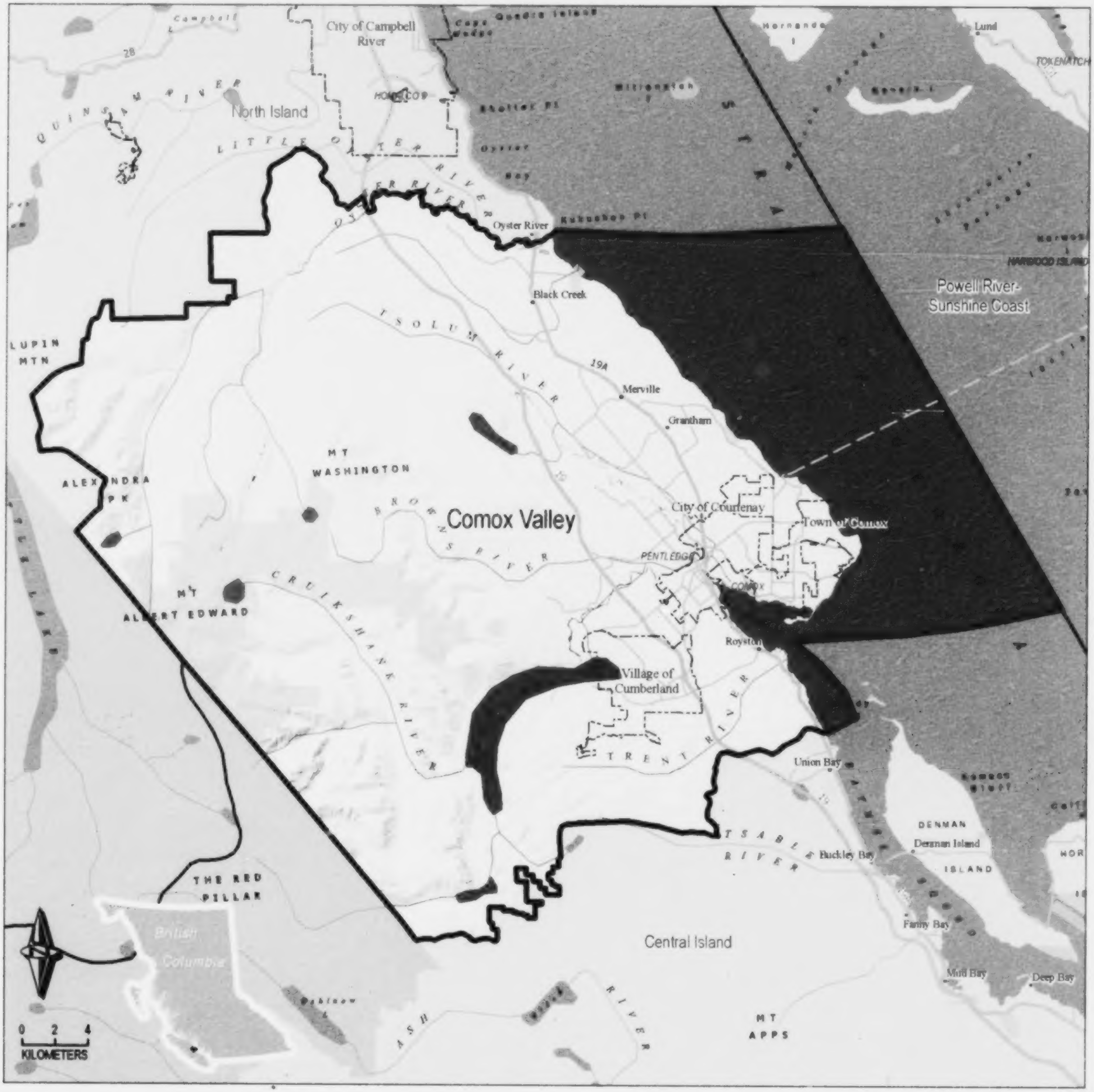
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed North Island Electoral District


Owikeno L
CALVERT
ISLAND
SMITH
SOUND
KLINAKLINI
RIVER
CAPE SCOTT
PARK
KNIGHT
INLET
District Municipality of Port Hardy
Town of Port McNeill
Village of Port Alice
QUATSINO SOUND
Nimpkish
Lake
North Island
Village of Sayward
Village of Zeballos
Village of Tahsis
City of Campbell River
KYUQUOT
SOUND
Village of Gold River
STRATHCONA
PARK
Village of Cumberland
NOOTKA
SOUND
Great
Central L
0 10 20
KILOMETERS

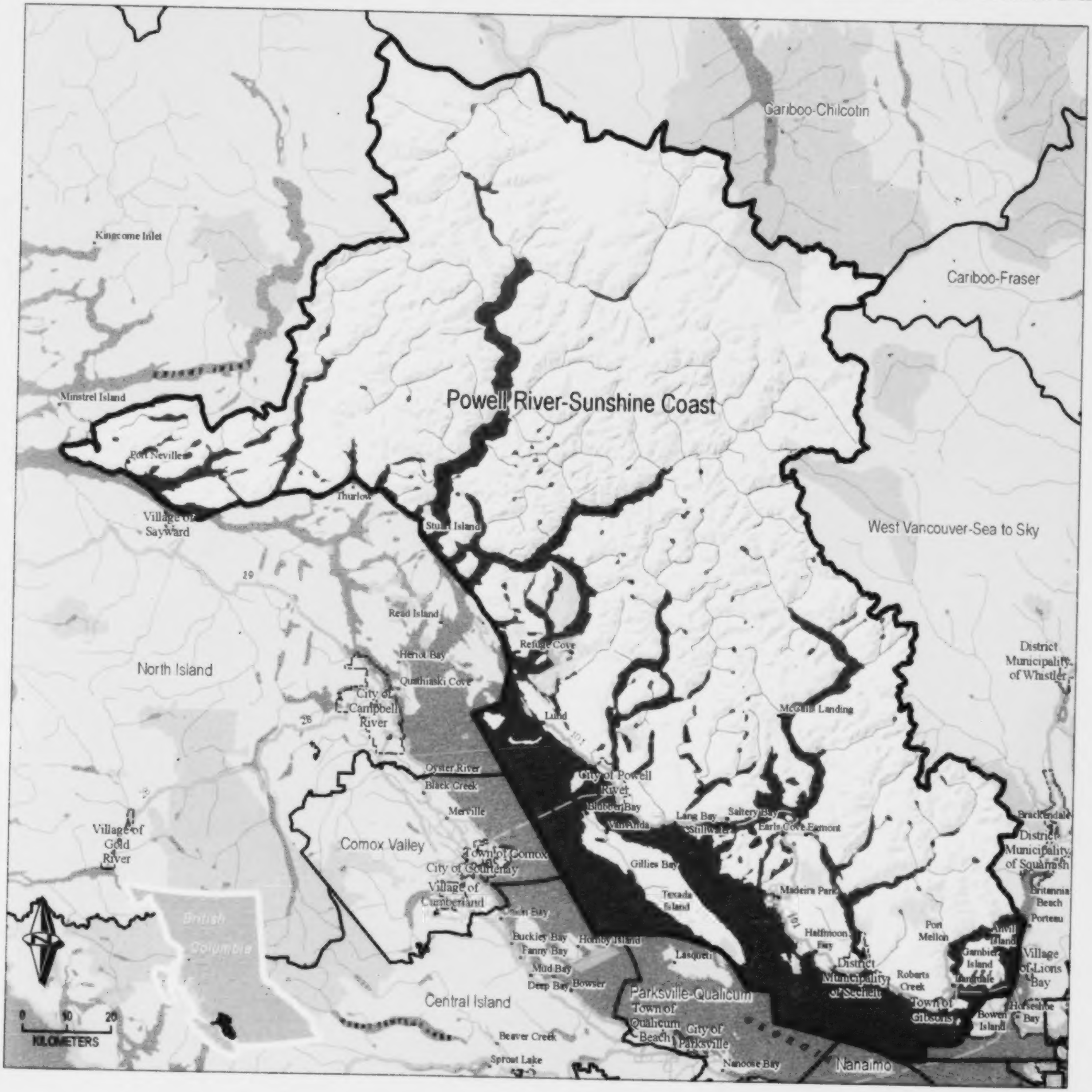
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Central Island Electoral District


Inset
District Municipality of Tofino
Village of Ucluelet
City of Port Alberni
Central Island
SOUND
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
S T R A I T O F G E O R G I A
Collishaw
DENMAN ISLAND
LASQUETI ISLAND
M T A P P S
Central Island
Dashwood
Town of Qualicum Beach
French Creek
City of Parksville
Hilliers
Errington
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
M T ARROWSMITH

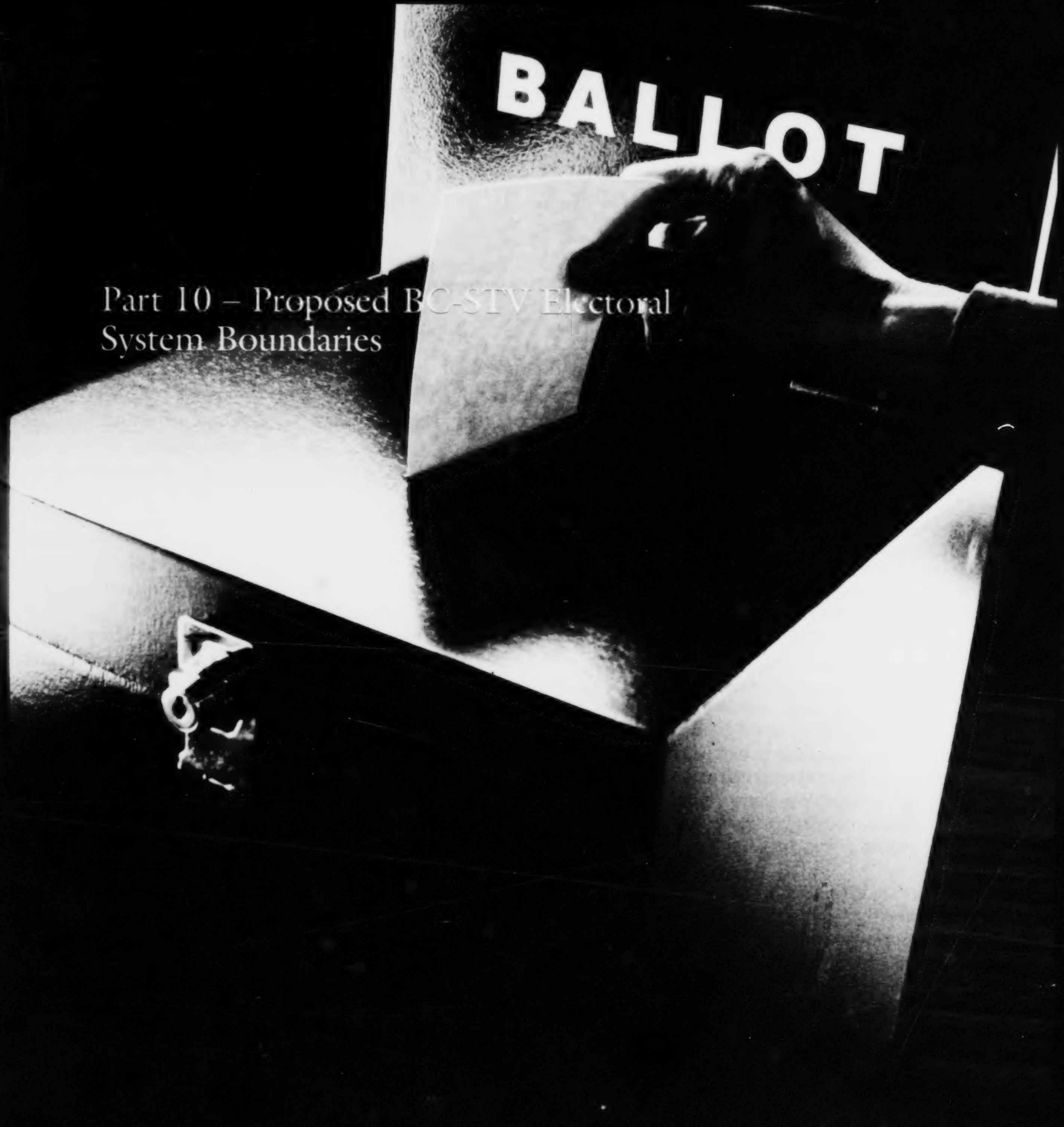
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Comox Valley Electoral District


City of Campbell River
North Island
QUINSAM RIVER
LITTLE OYSTER RIVER
Quadra Island
Cape Mudge
Hernando I
Lund
Mitlenatch I
Savary I
Shelter Pt
Oyster Bay
Oyster River
Kuhushan Pt
Harwood Island
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Black Creek
TSOLUM RIVER
19A
Merville
Grantham
LUPIN MTN
MT WASHINGTON
ALEXANDRA PK
BROWNS RIVER
Comox Valley
City of Courtenay
Town of Comox
PENTLEDGE
COMOX
MT ALBERT EDWARD
CRUIKSHANK RIVER
Royston
Village of Cumberland
TRENT RIVER
Union Bay
DENMAN ISLAND
Denman Island
TSABLE RIVER
Buckley Bay
THE RED PILLAR
Fanny Bay
Central Island
Mud Bay
Deep Bay
MT APPS
British Columbia
0 2 4
KILOMETERS

Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Powell River–Sunshine Coast Electoral District


Cariboo-Chilcotin
Kingcome Inlet
Cariboo-Fraser
Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Minstrel Island
Port Neville
Thurlow
Village of Sayward
Stuart Island
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
19
Read Island
Refuge Cove
Heriot Bay
Quathiaski Cove
North Island
City of Campbell River
28
District Municipality of Whistler
McGuire Landing
Lund
101
Oyster River
Black Creek
Merville
City of Powell River
Blubber Bay
Van Anda
Lang Bay
Stillwater
Saltery Bay
Earls Cove
Egmont
Brackendale
District Municipality of Squamish
Village of Gold River
Comox Valley
Town of Comox
City of Courtenay
Village of Cumberland
Gillies Bay
Texada Island
Madeira Park
Britannia Beach
Porteau
British Columbia
Union Bay
Buckley Bay
Fanny Bay
Hornby Island
Halfmoon Bay
Port Mellon
Anvil Island
Gambier Island
Village of Lions Bay
Mud Bay
Deep Bay
Bowser
Lasqueti
District Municipality of Sechelt
Roberts Creek
Langdale
Parksville-Qualicum
Town of Qualicum Beach
City of Parksville
Central Island
Town of Gibsons
Bowen Island
Horseshoe Bay
0
10
20
KILOMETERS
Beaver Creek
Sproat Lake
Nanoose Bay
Nanaimo

Part 10 – Proposed BC-STV Electoral System Boundaries



Part 10 – Proposed BC-STV Electoral System Boundaries

A. A Description of the Proposed BC-STV Electoral System

1. Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

In April 2003, the Legislative Assembly unanimously agreed to establish the independent, Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform, consisting of 161 members – one man and one woman randomly selected from each of the 79 electoral districts, two First Nations members and the Chair of the Citizens' Assembly.

The Citizens' Assembly identified three basic values that they believed should form the basis of our electoral system:

- *fair election results through proportionality:* the number of seats won by each political party in an election should reflect as closely as possible the number of votes each party received;
- *effective local representation:* each community needs the opportunity to choose the people who speak for it in the legislature, and to hold them accountable in democratic elections; and,
- *greater voter choice:* citizens should have the fullest possible opportunity to choose the candidates that best represent their interests, among party candidates and across all parties.

After studying a variety of electoral systems used around the world, conducting 50 public hearings across the province and considering over 1,600 written submissions, the Citizens' Assembly ultimately concluded that a single transferable vote (STV) system would best reflect these values, with several features unique to British Columbia, hence BC-STV.

2. Key elements of the proposed BC-STV electoral system

Under BC-STV, there would be fewer electoral districts in B.C. Each electoral district would elect between two and seven MLAs, and the number of MLAs might vary among districts. The Citizens' Assembly recommended that electoral districts should be designed to have as many MLAs as possible, because it is generally accepted that the more MLAs to be elected in a district, the greater the "proportionality" achieved – that is, the correspondence between the number of votes each political party receives and the number of seats won by each political party.

Each voter would get only one vote, but the voter would be able to express preferences for more than one candidate, by marking 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. beside candidates' names on the ballot, from most favourite to least favourite.

If the voter's most favourite candidate (#1) received more votes than needed to be elected, or received the fewest votes and was eliminated, then some or all of that voter's vote would be "transferred" to his or her next favourite candidate (#2). The vote, or part of it, would be transferred rather than wasted – hence the "single transferable vote" electoral system.

For a more detailed description of voting under the proposed BC-STV electoral system, see Appendix D of this report, and pages 17–20 of the *Technical Report* of the Citizens' Assembly.[64] Elections BC will be responsible for designing and conducting a province-wide BC-STV election (based on a legislative framework that would be passed by the Legislative Assembly), if the new electoral system is adopted.

3. 2005 referendum on the proposed BC-STV electoral system

In May 2005, British Columbians voted in a referendum on the Citizens' Assembly's recommendations. To pass, two thresholds had to be met. First, in at least 60 percent of B.C.'s electoral districts (48 of 79), more than 50 percent of valid votes cast had to vote "yes" – that threshold was passed in 97.5 percent of electoral districts (77). Second, at least 60 percent of valid votes cast province-wide had to vote "yes" – that threshold was not met, as only 57.7 percent voted "yes."

The September 12, 2005 throne speech addressed the consequences of the referendum results, stating in part:

> One task that was never assigned to the Citizens' Assembly was to show precisely how its proposed STV model might apply on an electoral map. This was arguably a design flaw in its terms of reference that in retrospect may have impacted how people voted in the referendum.
>
> Your government believes that establishing STV constituency boundaries may provide the public with a critical piece of information that was missing at the time of the referendum. The government will recommend that shortcoming be rectified. The legislature is obliged to appoint an electoral boundaries commission this session. Your government will use that opportunity to take the challenge of electoral reform to its ultimate conclusion. Legislation will be introduced to enable that requirement.
>
> The new electoral boundaries commission will be given two tasks. First, to draft the provincial electoral map, as is currently required. The government will introduce an amendment that it hopes will protect northern representation in this legislature. The amendment will allow the commission to provide for up to 85 members under the current electoral system. Having decided on the most appropriate number of MLAs within that cap to protect northern residents, it will set its sights on STV. The commission will also be asked to identify the best and fairest way to configure British Columbia's electoral districts under the STV model.
>
> In view of the double difficulty of this assignment and a new census not expected to be completed until 2007, the time frame for the commission to complete its work will be extended from the time prescribed in the current legislation. The commission will be asked to submit its final report on electoral redistribution under both electoral systems by the spring of 2008.
>
> That information will be put before the public as part of an extensive effort to better inform British Columbians about the two electoral options: the current system and STV. Equal funding will be provided to support active information campaigns for supporters and detractors of each model.

---

[64] Available at www.citizensassembly.bc.ca

4. The role of this Electoral Boundaries Commission

On October 24, 2005 the government accordingly tabled the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005* (see Appendix B), which gave this commission a second task in addition to its normal redistricting responsibilities – to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly based on the proposed BC-STV system, as to:

- the areas, boundaries and names of the electoral districts under BC-STV; and,
- the number of MLAs for each of those electoral districts.

Under section 4(5) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act*, the commission is required to propose the same number of MLAs under the proposed BC-STV electoral system as under the current SMP electoral system.

During the October 31, 2005 debate in the Legislative Assembly, Attorney General Wally Oppal explained why our electoral boundaries commission was given this additional mandate:

> The referendum results did indicate, however, that there was a widespread appetite in the province to examine electoral reform. During the debate, during the referendum, many voters felt that they did not fully understand the proposal. Members of the House will recall that there was a considerable amount of confusion during the course of the debate that took place prior to and during the election. As members of the House will recall, under the system, the electoral districts would change from single member to multi-member. Districts would have a minimum of two members and a maximum of seven. Generally, more rural areas of the province would have fewer members per district, while urban areas would have more. The average number of people per MLA would be constant.
>
> Given the close result and the apparent wish of the people to have more information about the implications of the decision, the throne speech delivered in September set out a process for this debate to continue, to provide more information to the public and for the people of the province to have a final say in another referendum . . . .
>
> The bill currently before the House is the first step in that process. The bill directs the electoral boundaries commission that will be appointed this fall to consider and recommend boundaries under both the current single member plurality system and a proposed STV system. This will ensure that during the next referendum British Columbia voters will know what their electoral districts would look like under BC-STV.[65]

The second BC-STV referendum will be held in conjunction with the May 2009 provincial general election. The outcome of this second referendum will dictate which electoral system will apply to the 2013 general election.

The commission has no preference for or against BC-STV, and has no authority to invite submissions about whether BC-STV should be adopted. It has a limited mandate, to draw proposed BC-STV electoral boundaries, which will be used in the 2013 provincial general election if the May 2009 BC-STV referendum passes.

We are sensitive to the fact that one of the reasons why the Citizens' Assembly recommended the BC-STV electoral system was its impact on proportionality. The Citizens' Assembly stated, at p. 9 of its *Technical Report,* that: "Proportionality – ensuring that each party's share of seats in the legislature reflects its actual share of votes – is the basis of fair election results." This led the Citizens' Assembly to recommend a proportional electoral system with multi-member districts, in which each district should elect between two and seven MLAs. The number of MLAs could vary among electoral districts, with proportionality enhanced as the number of MLAs to be elected in a district (called the "district magnitude") increased. We have developed our proposed BC-STV boundaries with these principles in mind.

---

[65] The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act* was debated in the Legislative Assembly on October 31, 2005 (afternoon sitting) and on November 15, 2005 (morning sitting). The full text of the debate is available at: http://www.leg.bc.ca/hansard/38th1st/H51018a.htm.

5. To learn more about BC-STV

More information about the proposed BC-STV electoral system, and about electoral systems generally, is available from libraries and from the Internet, including these websites:

- www.gov.bc.ca/referendum_info – the provincial government's Referendum Information website;
- www.citizensassembly.bc.ca – the Citizen's Assembly website, for:
  - the Assembly's *Final Report* and *Technical Report;*
  - the Assembly's 14 "Fact Sheets;" and,
  - other learning resources – search for "STV resources," then click on Learning Resources and Recommended Reading.

B. Combining SMP Electoral Districts to create BC-STV Electoral Districts

One of the unique challenges facing us was deciding the basis upon which to create BC-STV electoral districts. Should we develop our recommendations for SMP electoral districts first, and then aggregate them into workable BC-STV electoral districts? Or should we treat our SMP and BC-STV boundary setting tasks as two completely separate exercises?

During our public consultation process, we received some submissions in favour of both approaches. Some people felt that aggregating SMP districts would facilitate the public's understanding of the BC-STV electoral system, while others said that developing BC-STV boundaries as a completely separate exercise might allow us to be more responsive to community and regional interests. Several electoral redistribution experts with whom we consulted[66] and seven alumni of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform spoke in favour of the aggregation approach.

The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act* (see Appendix B) gives us no express direction as to which approach to take. Indeed, it gives us no guidance respecting what factors to take into consideration when drawing BC-STV boundaries and proposing the number of members for a BC-STV electoral district. Section 4(4) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act* does state that sections 11–15 of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* apply in relation to our BC-STV proposals, but none of those sections gives us any guidance as to what principles we should apply. However, we are bound by s. 3 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and the authorities discussed in Part 4 of this report. We are satisfied that s. 9(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* is instructive to the application of these constitutional principles, particularly that "the principle of representation by population be achieved." In other words, when developing BC-STV boundaries, we should strive for parity while being sensitive to BC's geographical regions, the distribution of its population, important historical considerations and community interests.

After careful consideration, we have decided to combine our proposed SMP electoral districts into workable BC-STV electoral districts. As the earlier parts of this report reflect, we have spent a great deal of time and effort grouping SMP electoral districts into historically recognized regional groupings, and developing SMP electoral districts that reflect, as much as circumstances permit, community and regional interests. In our view, it is logical to rely on these regional groupings, when developing BC-STV electoral districts. If our proposed SMP electoral districts reflect important geographical, demographic, historical and community interests, then grouping them for

---

[66] Prof. John Courtney (professor emeritus at the University of Saskatchewan's Department of Political Studies), Dr. Lisa Handley (an electoral boundary delimitation consultant from Washington, D.C.) and Prof. Kenneth Carty (acting head of UBC's political science department).

BC-STV districts should also reflect those values.

We are also keenly aware that, if the 2009 BC-STV referendum passes, BC will be embarking on a bold new electoral experiment in the 2013 general election. We should, in our view, proceed incrementally whenever possible.[67]

If BC-STV comes into force for the 2013 general election, there will be a new electoral boundaries commission appointed within the following year. If it emerges that the BC-STV electoral districts used in that election have made it unduly difficult for MLAs to represent local and regional community interests effectively, that would be the time to adjust boundaries.

C. Reasons for our Proposed District Magnitudes

District magnitude means the number of MLAs to be elected in, or representatives of, a BC-STV electoral district. The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act* instructs us to propose the number of MLAs for each BC-STV district, but does not expressly specify a range. Rather, it states that our proposals must be based on the "single transferable vote system," which it defines as:

> the electoral system recommended by the British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform in its final report, issued December 10, 2004, and in its technical report, issued December 20, 2004.

The Citizens' Assembly recommended a magnitude range of between two and seven MLAs per BC-STV district. From an examination of other STV jurisdictions (e.g. Ireland, Malta, Tasmania), members of the Citizens' Assembly Alumni told us that:

- as the district magnitude increases, the proportionality of the results improves; and,
- it is generally assumed that a district magnitude of four or five achieves optimal proportionality – the proportionality benefits are minimal beyond a district magnitude of five.

In their *Technical Report* (p. 10), the Citizens' Assembly acknowledged the need for varying district magnitudes:

> MLAs are expected to represent their local communities. In British Columbia this can mean providing effective representation for citizens that live in relatively small, densely populated urban areas, or in large, thinly populated rural areas of the province. Those of us from the rural and more remote corners of the province understand the problems that long distances create for participating in public meetings or contacting an MLA.
>
> BC-STV will adapt to different regional needs. Electoral districts in our new system will be organized to reduce these difficulties while ensuring proportionality. In the north and southeast this means adopting districts of two to three members. In the south-central and southwest of the province this means new districts of between four and seven members.

During our public consultation, some people told us that we should adopt a uniform district magnitude of two across the province, in order to keep BC-STV districts manageable. Others said that all BC-STV districts should have a district magnitude of seven, to achieve the greatest possible proportionality. Still others recommended ranges, such as three to five, or the full allotment of two to seven.

UBC political science professor Kenneth Carty examined, on our behalf, recent STV experience in Ireland.[68] He reported that Ireland has used STV in the lower house of its national parliament since 1923. In 1923, its 28 electoral districts had district magnitudes ranging from three to nine. In 1935, its 34 electoral districts had district magnitudes ranging from only three to seven. Since 1947, during which time the number of electoral districts has increased from 40 to 42, district magnitudes have narrowed even further, ranging only from three to five. Since 1997, legislation has mandated district magnitudes of only three, four or five members. Prof. Carty reported that:

---

[67] We were told that political parties and elections officials organize their activities around SMP district boundaries, and would find it administratively simpler to convert to the BC-STV electoral system if SMP districts were grouped together.

> There is no appetite for expanding the range of district magnitudes in use and experience suggests that creating constituencies returning from 3 to 5 members has provided for broadly proportional outcomes that satisfy parties and independents alike.[69]

Based on what we have heard and read, we have reached several understandings, which have guided us in our BC-STV boundary setting task:

- proportionality improves as the district magnitude increases;
- significant proportionality is achieved with a district magnitude of four or five; although proportionality continues to increase after five, the benefits taper off at six and seven;
- in sparsely populated areas of the province, the desire for proportionality must be balanced against the need to create BC-STV districts that reflect local community and regional interests, and that are serviceable. We should avoid creating BC-STV districts with a district magnitude of two, except in exceptional circumstances;
- BC-STV boundaries should, to the extent possible, respect the province's geographic and demographic regions, and existing administrative units such as regional districts and municipalities; and,
- we should avoid district magnitudes of seven, for two reasons:
  - the benefits of proportionality taper off when the district magnitude exceeds five; and,
  - in fast-growing urban areas, we should avoid a district magnitude of seven so that future electoral boundaries commissions will have some leeway to adjust for population increases by increasing the district magnitude without having to redraw the boundaries.

---

[68] Carty, R.K., "Electoral Boundary Determination in Single Transferable Vote Electoral Systems: the case of Ireland and Scotland," October 2006, available on the commission's website: www.bc-ebc.ca.

[69] According to information provided by the Citizens' Assembly Alumni, Malta has since 1947 used a district magnitude of six, while Tasmania has used district magnitudes of six (1948–1956), seven (1956–1996) and five (1998–2002).

D. Our Proposals for BC-STV Electoral Boundaries

As discussed earlier, we have decided to create BC-STV electoral districts by grouping our proposed SMP electoral districts. In this section, we propose that there be 20 BC-STV electoral districts.

1. The North

We have proposed that there be seven SMP electoral districts in the North. We are now proposing that they be grouped into three BC-STV electoral districts, as follows (see Tables 31, 32, and 33):

TABLE 31: NORTHEAST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Peace River	20,052	41,157	-19%
Northland	254,700	23,881	-53%
District magnitude: 2	**274,752**	**65,038**	**-36%**

This area is geographically isolated from the rest of the North, and is sparsely populated. We are persuaded that it should constitute one two-member Northeast BC-STV electoral district. (see map page 333) It will have a deviation of minus 36 percent.

After considering the factors set out in section 9(1) of the legislation, we are satisfied that the vastness of the combined land mass of this STV district (29 percent of the provincial total), the sparsity of its population, and its extreme weather conditions constitute "very special circumstances," which justify exceeding the statutory deviation limit of minus 25 percent. We are also sensitive to the fact that combining the Northland and Peace River SMP electoral districts with electoral districts to the west would not respect community interests.

TABLE 32: NORTHWEST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
North Coast	149,977	23,135	-54.4%
Skeena-Stikine	149,292	38,199	-24.8%
District magnitude: 2	**299,270**	**61,334**	**-39.6%**

For similar reasons, we are proposing that the two SMP electoral districts of North Coast and Skeena-Stikine be grouped together to form one two-member Northwest BC-STV electoral district. It will have a deviation of minus 39.6 percent. (see map page 334) As discussed earlier in this report, North Coast is a very challenging area for an MLA to represent, with many constituents living on Haida Gwaii or in small coastal communities accessible only by water or air. Similarly, Skeena-Stikine, extending north nearly to the Yukon border, poses some representation challenges. Cumulatively these constitute, in our view, "very special circumstances," justifying a deviation in excess of the statutory limit of minus 25 percent.

TABLE 33: NORTH CENTRAL BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Bulkley-Nechako	78,193	38,243	-24.7%
Prince George	49	50,893	+0.2%
Fraser–Fort George	51,832	41,371	-18.5%
District magnitude: 3	**130,074**	**130,507**	**-14.3%**

The remaining three proposed Northern SMP electoral districts constitute the central north of the province. The major transportation corridors of Highways 16 and 97 connect most residents of these districts to one another. They all share a community interest around the principal population center of Prince George. We are proposing that they be grouped together into one three-member North Central BC-STV electoral district. (see map page 335) It will have a deviation of minus 14.3 percent.

2. The Cariboo-Thompson

We have proposed that there be four SMP electoral districts in the Cariboo-Thompson. We are now proposing that they be grouped into one four-member BC-STV electoral district, to be named Cariboo-Thompson. (see map page 336)

TABLE 34: CARIBOO-THOMPSON BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Cariboo-Chilcotin	75,184	45,104	-11.2%
Cariboo-Fraser	35,477	42,170	-17%
Kamloops–South Thompson	3,854	51,812	+2%
Kamloops–North Thompson	21,694	50,042	-1.5%
District magnitude: 4	**136,209**	**189,128**	**-6.9%**

This land mass includes several sub-regions, such as the Cariboo, the Chilcotin, the Southern Interior and Thompson. It is defined by three major river systems – the Fraser, the North Thompson and the South Thompson. The communities in this region are connected by several of B.C.'s major highway systems. The Cariboo-Thompson has historically been treated as a discrete region of the province. It will have a deviation of minus 6.9 percent.

3. The Okanagan

We have proposed that there be seven SMP electoral districts in the Okanagan. We are now proposing that these seven districts be grouped into one four-member BC-STV electoral district (to be named Okanagan-Shuswap) (see map page 337), and one three-member BC-STV electoral district (to be named Okanagan-Boundary) (see map page 338). They would have deviations of plus 7 percent and minus 2.4 percent, respectively (see Tables 35 and 36).

TABLE 35 OKANAGAN-SHUSWAP BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Shuswap	8,626	53,658	+5.7%
Vernon-Monashee	5,016	58,538	+15.3%
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,181	51,968	+2.3%
Kelowna-Mission	564	53,231	+4.8%
District magnitude: 4	**15,386**	**217,395**	**+7.0%**

TABLE 36: OKANAGAN-BOUNDARY BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Kelowna-Westside	1,140	51,850	+2.1%
Penticton	1,919	53,777	+5.9%
Boundary-Similkameen	15,954	43,052	-15.2%
District magnitude: 3	**19,013**	**148,679**	**-2.4%**

The Okanagan region (as we have defined and amended it) is a part of the province with a primarily urban (with some rural) population that shares many community interests. We considered whether to propose one seven-member BC-STV electoral district (the maximum allowed), or two districts with smaller district magnitudes.

The principal disadvantage of a seven-member BC-STV district is that it allows no room for future growth, without changing boundaries. In a geographical area where significant population growth is anticipated, creating two BC-STV electoral districts with smaller district magnitudes will allow a future electoral boundaries commission to increase the district magnitudes, without having to redraw BC-STV boundaries. Although we realize that creating an Okanagan BC-STV electoral district with a district magnitude of three results in reduced proportionality, we believe it preferable to create two BC-STV electoral districts in the Okanagan.

Creating two BC-STV electoral districts in this area also means that the City of Kelowna, being so large and centrally located, must be divided between them – the only alternative would have been to create districts with district magnitudes of five and two. It has also resulted in the two districts having somewhat disparate deviations: plus 7 percent and minus 2.4 percent. Having decided to group SMP districts together to form BC-STV districts, and given the primarily linear distribution of districts throughout the Okanagan, this was unavoidable. We expect these deviations to moderate, since the southern Okanagan is expected to experience higher growth.

4. The Columbia-Kootenay

We have proposed that there be three SMP electoral districts in the Columbia-Kootenay region. We are now proposing that they be grouped into one three-member BC-STV electoral district, which we propose be named Columbia-Kootenay (see map page 339). It will have a deviation of minus 4.9 percent (see Table 37).

TABLE 37: COLUMBIA-KOOTENAY BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Kootenay East	50,419	39,951	-21.3%
Kootenay South	13,870	50,851	+0.1%
Kootenay West	11,843	54,025	+6.4%
District magnitude: 3	**76,132**	**144,827**	**-4.9%**

This area, with its rich mining and smelting history, is defined by several major river and lake systems, including the Columbia River and the Kootenay and Arrow Lakes.

5. The Fraser Valley

We have proposed that there be nine SMP electoral districts in the Fraser Valley. We are now proposing that these nine districts be grouped into one four-member BC-STV electoral district to be named Fraser Valley East, (see map page 340) and one five-member BC-STV electoral district to be named Fraser Valley West (see map page 341). They would have deviations of plus 0.4 percent and plus 0.7 percent, respectively (see Tables 38 and 39).

TABLE 38: FRASER VALLEY EAST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Mission-Clayburn	638	52,874	+4.1%
Abbotsford Centre	49	52,495	+3.4%
Abbotsford-Chilliwack	281	49,863	-1.8%
Chilliwack-Hope	10,842	48,807	-3.9%
District magnitude: 4	**11,810**	**204,039**	**+0.4%**

TABLE 39: FRASER VALLEY WEST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	1,946	50,474	-0.6%
Maple Ridge–Mission	389	50,193	-1.2%
Langley West	73	53,231	+4.8%
Langley East	211	50,805	0%
Abbotsford-Aldergrove	193	50,965	+0.4%
District magnitude: 5	**2,812**	**255,668**	**+0.7%**

In considering how to cluster these nine SMP electoral districts into two BC-STV electoral districts, we could not use the Fraser River as the dividing line, because two of our proposed SMP districts straddle the river. It also became apparent that, however the SMP districts are grouped, the residents of at least two municipalities will be split between BC-STV districts. Accepting that unfortunate reality, we settled on a Fraser Valley East and a Fraser Valley West clustering that respects, as much as the circumstances allow, long-standing community interests.

With respect to our proposed Fraser Valley West BC-STV electoral district, we recognize that at present there is no bridge connection between the two SMP districts north of the river and the three SMP districts south of the river. However, our proposed BC-STV electoral districts would not take effect until 2013 at the earliest. By then, the Golden Ears Bridge joining Maple Ridge and Langley will have been in operation for several years, strengthening the ties among these five SMP electoral districts.

6. Tri-Cities

We have proposed that there be four SMP electoral districts in the Tri-Cities area. We are now proposing that these four districts be grouped into one four-member BC-STV electoral district, to be named Tri-Cities (see map page 342). It would have a deviation of minus 2.9 percent.

TABLE 40: TRI-CITIES BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	**Area in sq. km.**	**Population**	**Deviation**
Port Moody–Coquitlam	83	51,539	+1.5%
Coquitlam-Maillardville	30	46,315	-8.8%
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	615	46,732	-8.0%
Port Coquitlam	35	52,692	+3.8%
District magnitude: 4	**763**	**197,278**	**-2.9%**

Bounded on three sides by water, the Tri-Cities area has become, in recent years, a distinct area within the Lower Mainland. With four SMP electoral districts, we are satisfied that this region should constitute one BC-STV electoral district. We considered, but ultimately rejected, the idea of adding Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows or one of the Burnaby SMP electoral districts to increase the district magnitude of the Tri-Cities BC-STV district to five. In either case, doing so would ignore long-standing community interests and would clash with our goal of respecting municipal boundaries whenever possible.

7. Surrey

We have proposed that there be eight SMP electoral districts in the Surrey and White Rock area. We are now proposing that these eight districts be grouped into two four-member BC-STV electoral districts, to be named Surrey North (see map page 343) and Surrey South. (see map page 344) They would have deviations of plus 1.5 percent and plus 2.3 percent respectively (see Tables 41 and 42).

TABLE 41: SURREY NORTH BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	**Area in sq. km.**	**Population**	**Deviation**
Surrey-Whalley	31	51,283	+1%
Surrey-Guildford	57	51,801	+2%
Surrey–Green Timbers	16	51,142	+0.7%
Surrey-Fleetwood	25	51,985	+2.4%
District magnitude: 4	**129**	**206,211**	**+1.5%**

TABLE 42: SURREY SOUTH BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	**Area in sq. km.**	**Population**	**Deviation**
Surrey-Newton	14	53,711	+5.8%
Surrey-Panorama	62	52,060	+2.5%
Surrey-Cloverdale	121	50,875	+0.2%
Surrey–White Rock	62	51,128	+0.7%
District magnitude: 4	**259**	**207,774**	**+2.3%**

Our clustering on a northern and southern basis was done primarily to respect the City of Surrey's seven communities. Our proposed Surrey North BC-STV electoral district corresponds quite closely to the city's Whalley, City Centre, Guildford and Fleetwood communities. Our proposed Surrey South BC-STV electoral district corresponds quite closely to the city's more agricultural Newton, Cloverdale and South Surrey communities, plus the separate municipality of White Rock.

8. Richmond and Delta

We have proposed that there be five SMP electoral districts in the Richmond and Delta area. We are now proposing that these five districts be grouped into one five-member BC-STV electoral district, to be named Richmond-Delta. (see map page 345) It would have a deviation of plus 7.1 percent (see Table 43).

TABLE 43: RICHMOND-DELTA BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Richmond Centre	374	55,942	+10.2%
Richmond East	92	57,798	+13.8%
Richmond-Steveston	32	60,721	+19.6%
Delta North	32	51,628	+1.7%
Delta South	463	45,774	-9.9%
District magnitude: 5	**991**	**271,863**	**+7.1%**

We considered proposing a three-member Richmond BC-STV district and a two-member Delta BC-STV district, but declined to do so because of the Citizens' Assembly's caution that two-member districts should be limited to sparsely-populated areas of the province. We also considered grouping the two Delta SMP electoral districts with those in Surrey, and grouping the three Richmond SMP electoral districts with those in Vancouver, but decided that doing either would disrupt long-standing community interests. On balance, it would be preferable to group the five Richmond and Delta SMP electoral districts into one BC-STV district.

9. Burnaby and New Westminster

We have proposed that there be four SMP electoral districts in Burnaby and one in New Westminster. We are now proposing that these five districts be grouped into one five-member BC-STV electoral district, to be named Burnaby–New Westminster.(see map page 346) It would have a deviation of plus 2.9 percent (see Table 44).

TABLE 44: BURNABY–NEW WESTMINSTER BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Burnaby-Brentwood	24	51,274	+1%
Burnaby-Lougheed	37	50,229	-1.1%
Burnaby-Willingdon	13	50,957	+0.3%
Burnaby-Edmonds	23	50,339	-0.9%
New Westminster	18	58,549	+15.3%
District magnitude: 5	**115**	**261,348**	**+2.9%**

New Westminster has stronger community interests with Burnaby than with other adjacent municipalities. Consequently, we believe that New Westminster should be joined with the four proposed Burnaby SMP electoral districts, to form one five-member BC-STV electoral district.

10. Vancouver

We have proposed that there be 11 SMP electoral districts in Vancouver. We are now proposing that these 11 districts be grouped into one five-member BC-STV electoral district to be named Vancouver East (see map page 347), and one six-member BC-STV electoral district to be named Vancouver West. (see map page 348) They would have deviations of plus 9.3 percent and plus 2.6 percent respectively (see Tables 45 and 46).

TABLE 45: VANCOUVER EAST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Vancouver-Hastings	14	55,595	+9.5%
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	57,185	+12.6%
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	57,276	+12.8%
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	13	52,628	+3.6%
Vancouver-Kensington	9	54,967	+8.2%
District magnitude: 5	**58**	**277,651**	**+9.3%**

TABLE 46: VANCOUVER WEST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Vancouver–West End	12	48,725	-4.1%
Vancouver–False Creek	6	43,568	-14.2%
Vancouver-Fairview	9	52,020	+2.4%
Vancouver-Langara	15	57,047	+12.3%
Vancouver–Point Grey	44	54,823	+8%
Vancouver-Quilchena	22	56,409	+11.1%
District magnitude: 6	**109**	**312,592**	**+2.6%**

Main Street has traditionally been seen as an unofficial dividing line between the east side and west side of Vancouver. Since we have relied on Main Street as a principal boundary between several SMP electoral districts, it seemed appropriate to us to create one BC-STV electoral district east of Main Street, and the other to the west.

Although the deviations between the two proposed districts are somewhat disparate (plus 9.3 percent and plus 2.6 percent), that is to some extent inevitable when SMP districts are combined to form BC-STV districts. In any event, greater than average growth is expected on the west side of the city, so we expect this disparity to moderate or be eliminated over time.

11. North Shore

We have proposed that there be four SMP electoral districts in the North Shore. We are now proposing that they be grouped into one four-member BC-STV electoral district, to be named North Shore. (see map page 349) It would have a deviation of plus 3.5 percent (see Table 47).

TABLE 47: NORTH SHORE BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
North Vancouver–Seymour	395	52,164	+2.7%
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	27	54,600	+7.5%
West Vancouver–Capilano	80	54,238	+6.8%
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	9,613	49,161	-3.2%
District magnitude: 4	**10,115**	**210,163**	**+3.5%**

12.Vancouver Island and South Coast

We have proposed that there be 13 SMP electoral districts on Vancouver Island. As discussed earlier in this report, we are also proposing that the Powell River–Sunshine Coast SMP electoral district be grouped with northern Vancouver Island SMP districts, to form a North Island–South Coast BC-STV electoral district. (see map page 350) We are now proposing that the resulting 14 SMP electoral districts be grouped into three BC-STV electoral districts, as follows (see Tables 48 to 50):

TABLE 48: NORTH ISLAND–SOUTH COAST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
North Island	44,502	53,654	+5.7%
Comox Valley	1,707	55,543	+9.4%
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	21,232	47,109	-7.2%
Central Island	13,903	46,214	-9%
District magnitude: 4	**81,344**	**202,520**	**-0.3%**

During our public consultation, several Powell River–Sunshine Coast constituents told us that they were opposed to being included in a North Shore–South Coast BC-STV electoral district. We were told that this is predominantly a coastal and rural area, having more in common with northern Vancouver Island than with the North Shore.

We believe that the Powell River–Sunshine Coast SMP electoral district should be combined with the northern Vancouver Island SMP districts to form one four-member BC-STV electoral district, for several reasons. First, the submissions of stronger community interests with the Island than with the North Shore are persuasive. Second, there is precedent for combining Mainland and Island communities into single governance entities – both the Mount Waddington and Comox-Strathcona regional districts do so.

The North Island–South Coast BC-STV electoral district is a principally rural area, nearly eight times as large as the other two proposed Island BC-STV districts combined. It will be a four-member district, with a deviation of minus 0.3 percent.

TABLE 49: MID-ISLAND BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Parksville-Qualicum	1,070	53,318	+5%
Nanaimo	627	53,940	+6.2%
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	2,528	52,695	+3.8%
Cowichan-Goldstream	1,731	54,946	+8.2%
District magnitude: 4	**5,955**	**214,899**	**+5.8%**

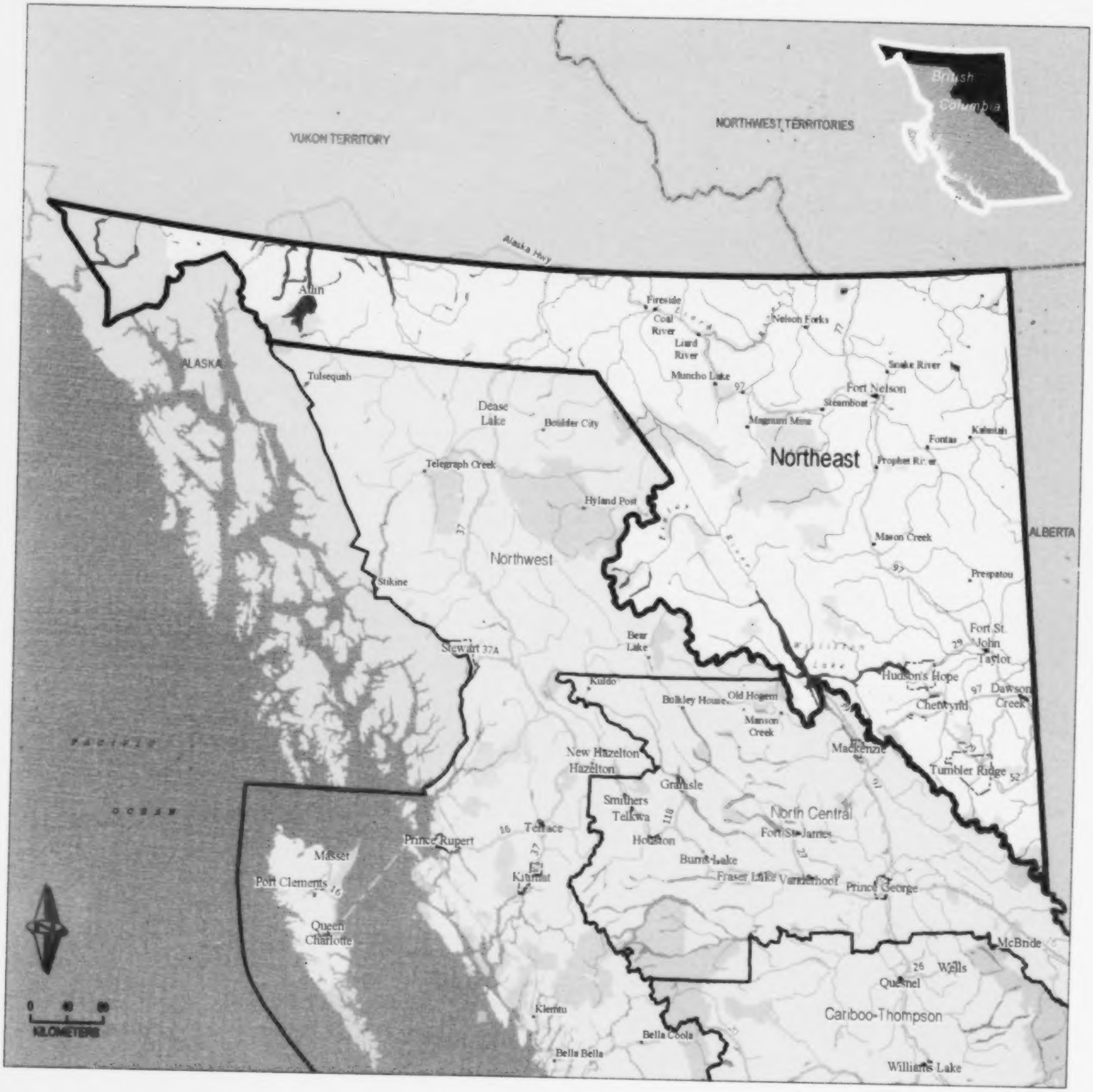
The Mid-Island BC-STV electoral district, (see map page 351) stretching from Qualicum to just south of the Malahat, will have significantly greater population density than areas farther north. It will be a four-member district, with a deviation of plus 5.8 percent.

TABLE 50: CAPITAL REGION BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

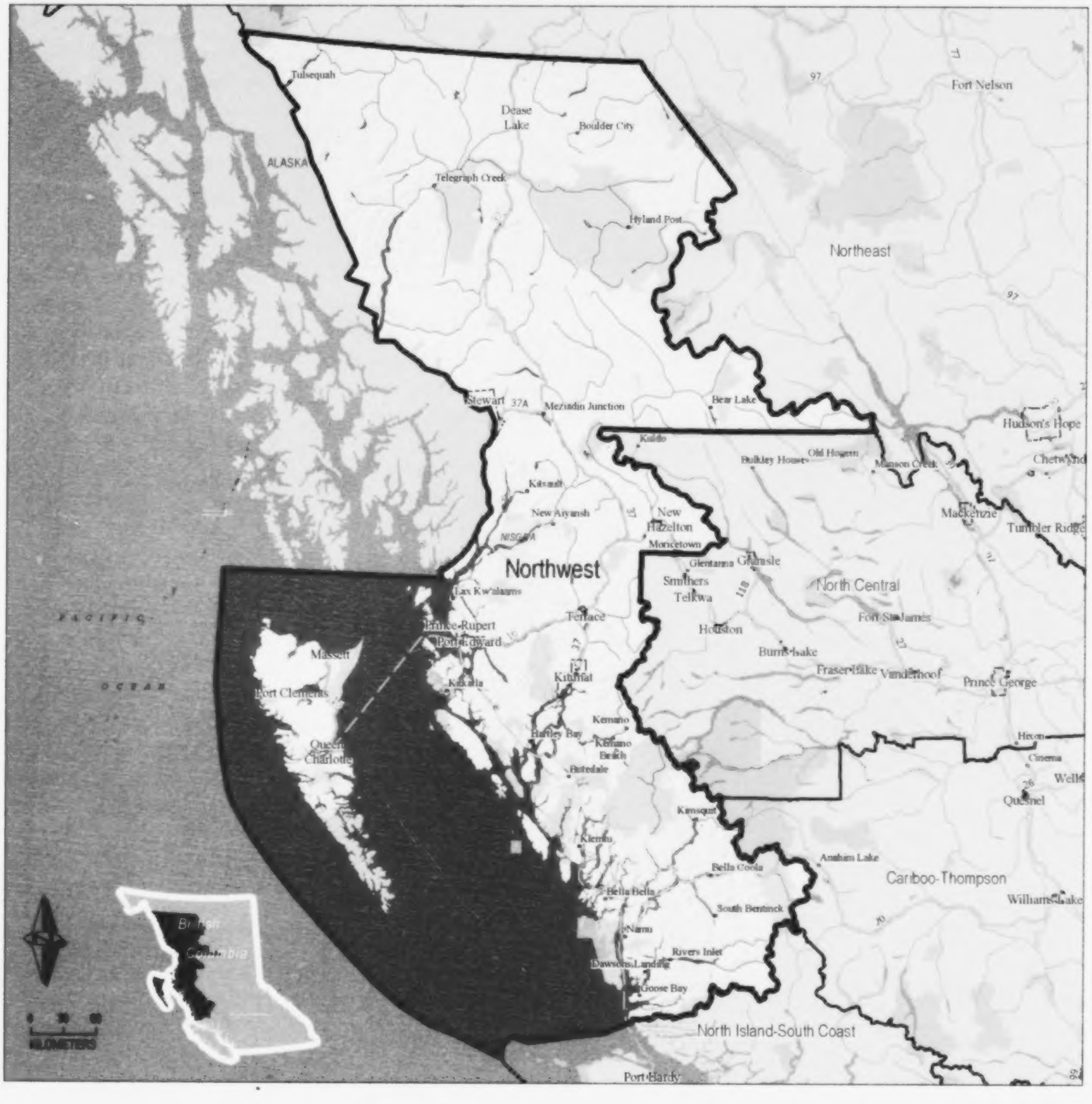
Proposed SMP districts	Area in sq. km.	Population	Deviation
Victoria–Oak Bay	290	57,571	+13.4%
Victoria-Esquimalt	99	57,133	+12.5%
Saanich West	93	56,548	+11.4%
Saanich East	91	51,880	+2.2%
Saanich North and the Islands	1,526	55,201	+8.7%
Juan de Fuca	2,646	56,240	+10.7%
District magnitude: 6	**4,745**	**334,573**	**+9.8%**

The Capital Region BC-STV electoral district (see map page 352) will correspond quite closely to the Capital Regional District boundary. It will be a six-member district, with a deviation of plus 9.8 percent.

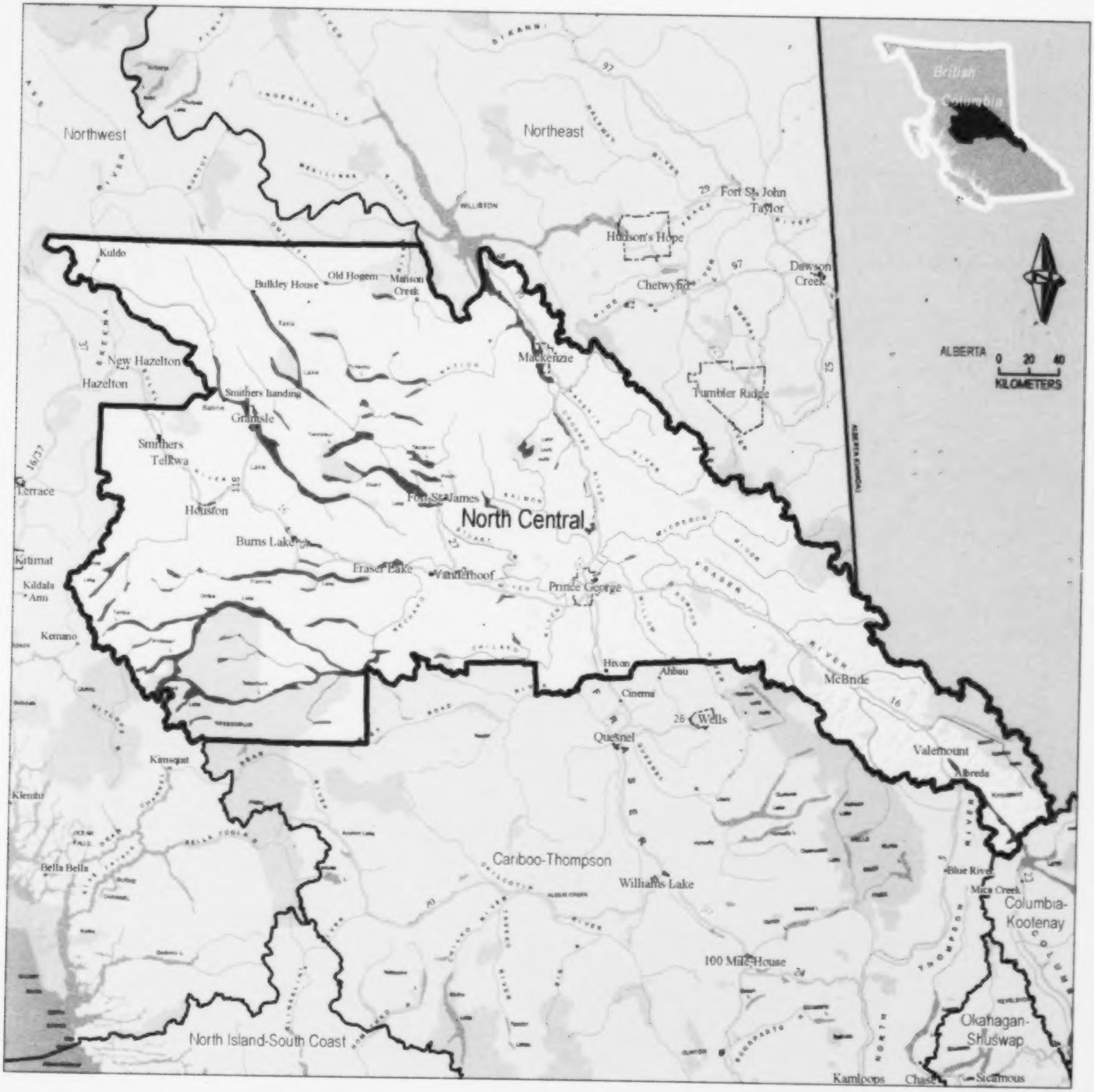
Region: The North – Proposed Northeast BC-STV Electoral District


YUKON TERRITORY
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
British Columbia
Alaska Hwy
Atlin
ALASKA
Tulsequah
Dease Lake
Boulder City
Telegraph Creek
Hyland Post
37
Northwest
Stikine
Stewart 37A
Fireside
Coal River
Liard River
Muncho Lake
97
Nelson Forks
77
Snake River
Fort Nelson
Steamboat
Magnum Mine
Fontas
Kahntah
Northeast
Prophet River
Mason Creek
ALBERTA
Prespatou
Fort St. John
Taylor
29
Hudson's Hope
97
Dawson Creek
Chetwynd
Tumbler Ridge
52
Bear Lake
Williston Lake
Kuldo
Bulkley House
Old Hogem
Manson Creek
Mackenzie
New Hazelton
Hazelton
Granisle
Smithers
Telkwa
118
Houston
North Central
Fort St. James
27
Burns Lake
Fraser Lake
Vanderhoof
Prince George
16
Terrace
Prince Rupert
Masset
Port Clements
16
Queen Charlotte
37
Kitimat
PACIFIC OCEAN
McBride
26
Wells
Quesnel
Cariboo-Thompson
Williams Lake
Bella Coola
Bella Bella
Klemtu
0 40 80
KILOMETERS

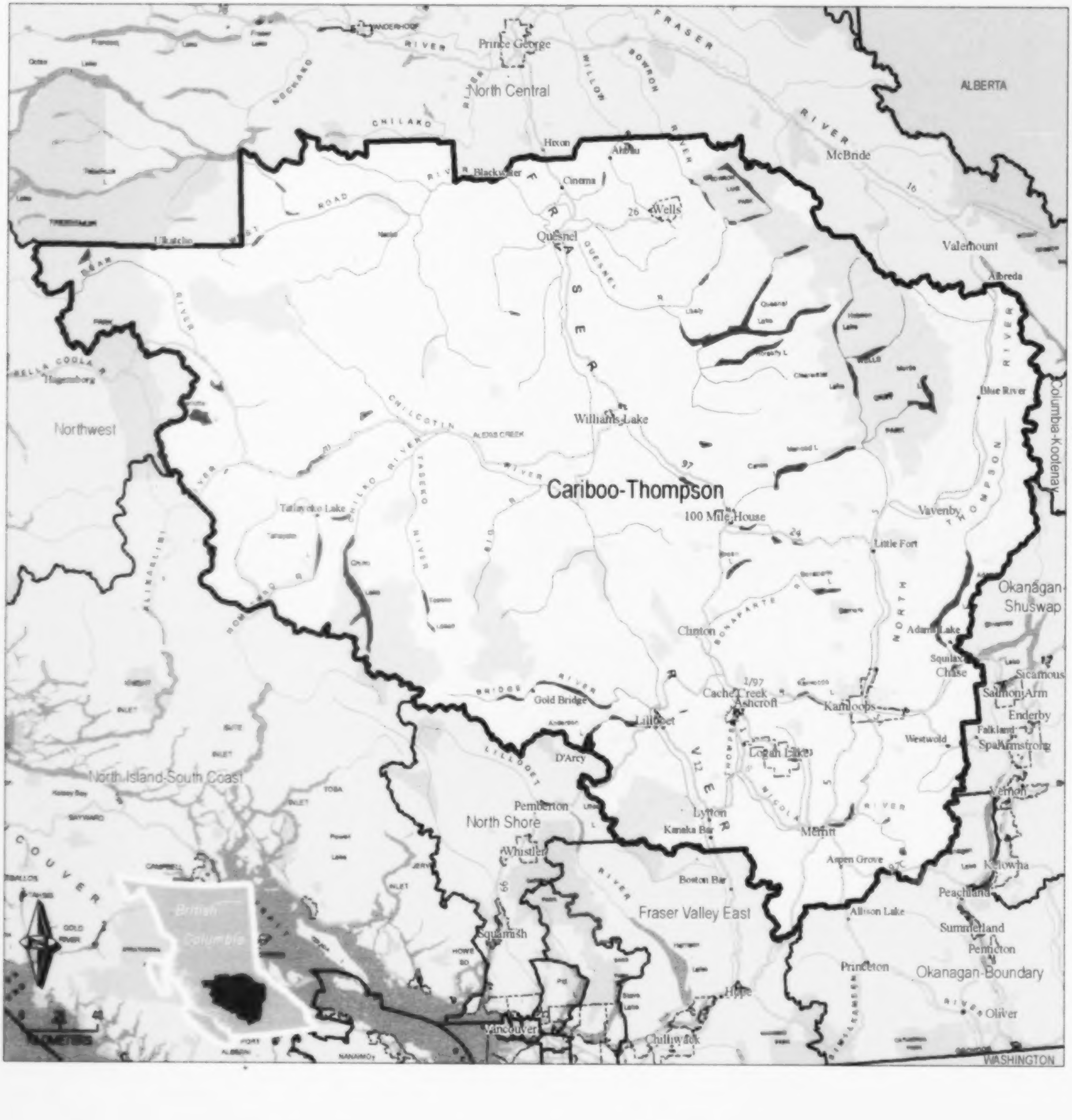
Region: The North – Proposed Northwest BC-STV Electoral District


Tulsequah
Dease Lake
Boulder City
ALASKA
Telegraph Creek
Hyland Post
97
Fort Nelson
Northeast
97
Stewart
37A
Meziadin Junction
Bear Lake
Kitwanga
Bulkley House
Old Hogem
Manson Creek
Hudson's Hope
Chetwynd
Kitsault
New Aiyansh
37
New Hazelton
Moricetown
Mackenzie
Tumbler Ridge
NISGA'A
Northwest
Lax Kw'alaams
Glentanna
Granisle
Smithers
Telkwa
118
North Central
PACIFIC
OCEAN
Prince Rupert
Port Edward
Terrace
Houston
Fort St. James
Masset
Burns Lake
Port Clements
Kitkatla
Kitimat
Fraser Lake
Vanderhoof
Prince George
Queen Charlotte
Kemano
Hartley Bay
Kemano Beach
Butedale
Hixon
Cinema
Wells
Quesnel
Kimsquit
Klemtu
Anahim Lake
Bella Coola
Cariboo-Thompson
Bella Bella
South Bentinck
Williams Lake
Namu
British Columbia
Rivers Inlet
Dawsons Landing
Goose Bay
KILOMETERS
North Island-South Coast
Port Hardy

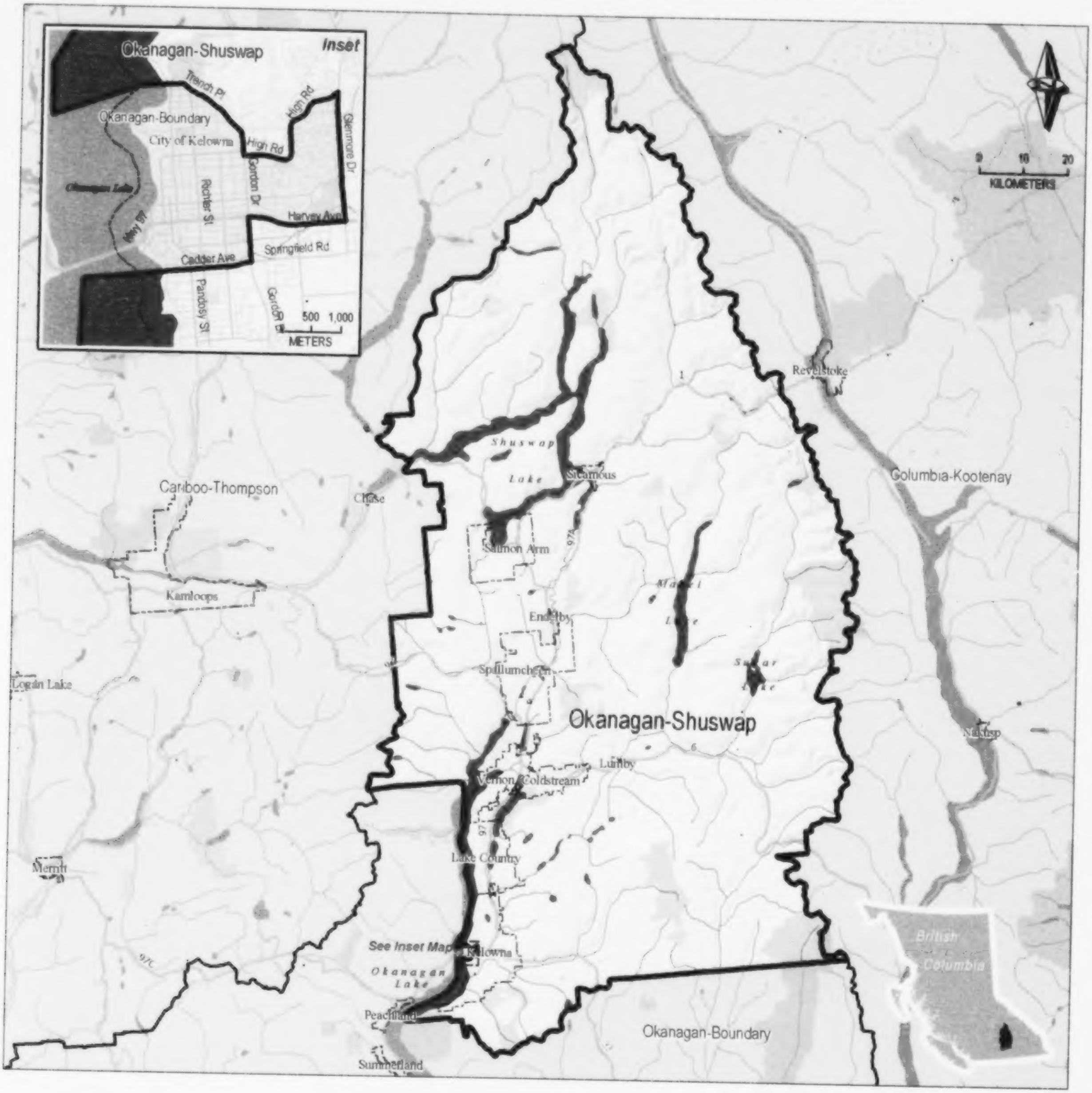
Region: The North – Proposed North Central BC-STV Electoral District


Northwest
Northeast
North Central
Cariboo-Thompson
North Island-South Coast
Columbia-Kootenay
Okanagan-Shuswap
British Columbia
ALBERTA
0 20 40
KILOMETERS
Kuldo
Bulkley House
Old Hogem
Manson Creek
New Hazelton
Hazelton
Smithers landing
Granisle
Smithers
Telkwa
Houston
Terrace
Kitimat
Kildala Arm
Kemano
Burns Lake
Fraser Lake
Fort St James
Vanderhoof
Prince George
Mackenzie
Hudson's Hope
Fort St. John
Taylor
Chetwynd
Dawson Creek
Tumbler Ridge
Hixon
Ahbau
Cinema
Wells
Quesnel
McBride
Valemount
Albreda
Kimsquit
Klemtu
Bella Bella
Williams Lake
100 Mile House
Blue River
Mica Creek
Kamloops
Chase
Sicamous
97
16
26
25
29
20
24
5
16/37
118
27
37

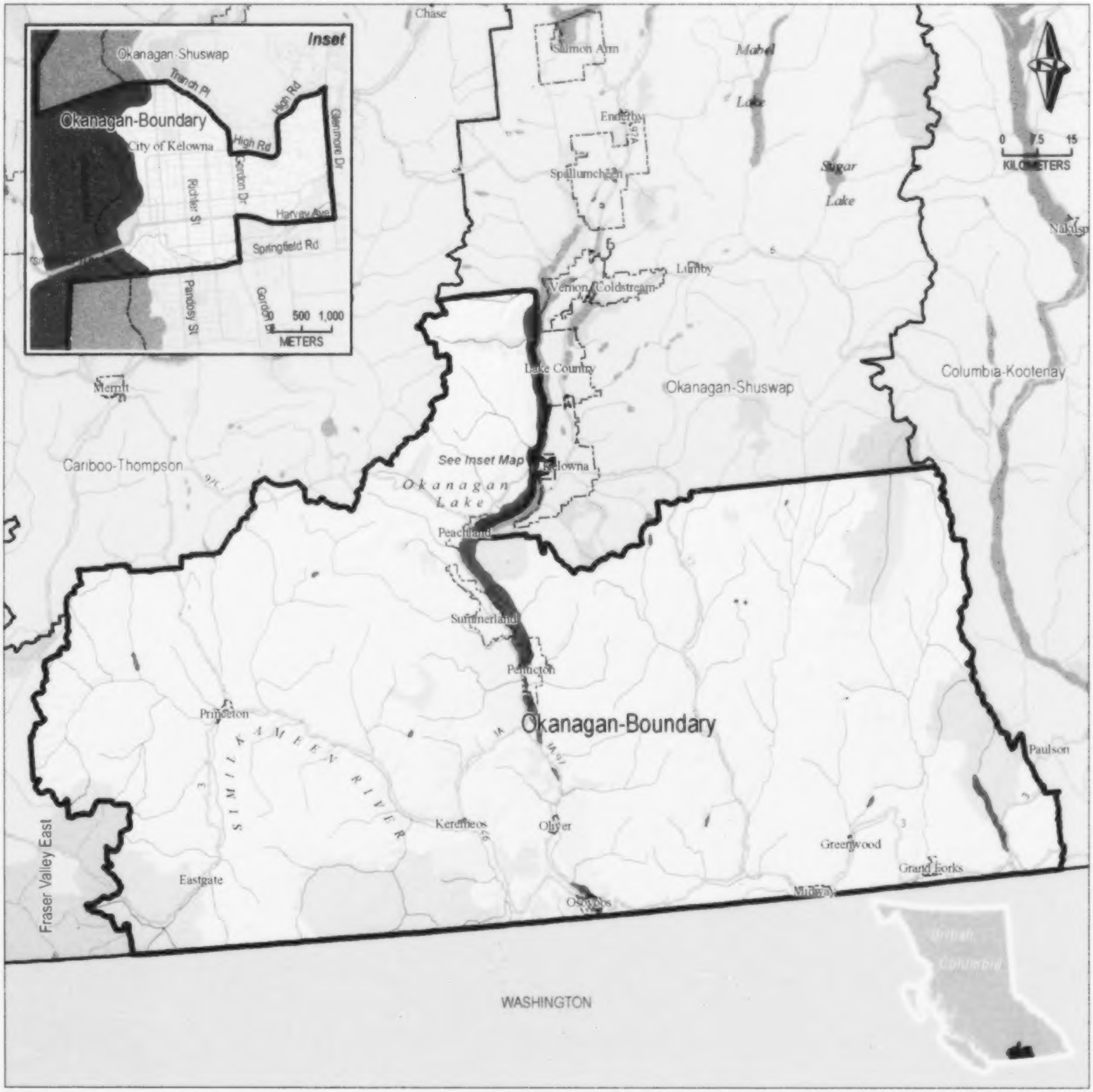
Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Cariboo-Thompson BC-STV Electoral District


Prince George
North Central
ALBERTA
FRASER RIVER
WILLOW
BOWRON
CHILAKO
NECHAKO
Hixon
Alexis
Blackwater
Cinema
Wells
26
McBride
16
Quesnel
QUESNEL
Ulkatcho
Valemount
Albreda
Bella Coola
Hagensborg
Northwest
CHILCOTIN
ALEXIS CREEK
Williams Lake
97
Blue River
Columbia-Kootenay
Cariboo-Thompson
100 Mile House
Tatlayoko Lake
TASEKO
Vavenby
NORTH THOMPSON
Little Fort
24
Okanagan-Shuswap
Clinton
BONAPARTE
Adams Lake
Squilax
Chase
Sicamous
Salmon Arm
Enderby
Falkland
Spallumcheen
Armstrong
Gold Bridge
BRIDGE RIVER
1/97
Cache Creek
Ashcroft
Kamloops
Lillooet
Westwold
D'Arcy
Logan Lake
LILLOOET
North Island-South Coast
Vernon
Pemberton
North Shore
Lytton
Kanaka Bar
Merritt
NICOLA RIVER
Whistler
Aspen Grove
Kelowna
Peachland
Boston Bar
99
Fraser Valley East
Allison Lake
Squamish
Summerland
Penticton
Princeton
Okanagan-Boundary
Hope
Oliver
Vancouver
Chilliwack
WASHINGTON
British Columbia
KILOMETERS

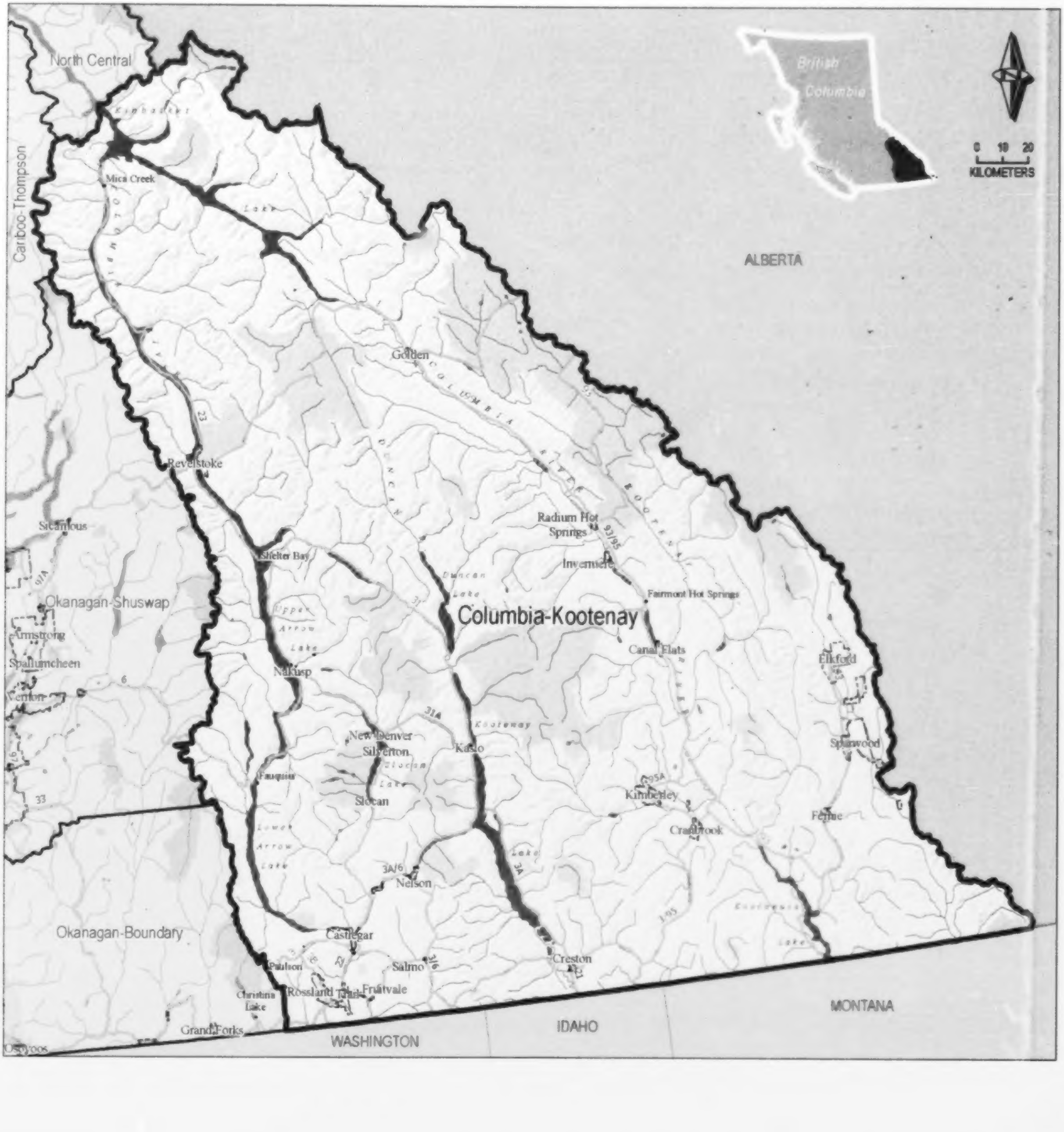
Region: Okanagan – Proposed Okanagan-Shuswap BC-STV Electoral District


Okanagan-Shuswap
Inset
Trench Pl
High Rd
Glenmore Dr
Okanagan-Boundary
City of Kelowna
High Rd
Okanagan Lake
Gordon Dr
Richter St
Hwy 97
Harvey Ave
Springfield Rd
Cadder Ave
Pandosy St
Gordon Dr
0 500 1,000
METERS
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Revelstoke
1
Shuswap Lake
Sicamous
Chase
Cariboo-Thompson
Columbia-Kootenay
Salmon Arm
97A
Kamloops
Mabel Lake
Enderby
Spallumcheen
Sugar Lake
Logan Lake
Okanagan-Shuswap
Nakusp
6
Lumby
Vernon
Coldstream
97
Lake Country
Merritt
See Inset Map
Kelowna
97C
Okanagan Lake
Peachland
Okanagan-Boundary
Summerland
British Columbia

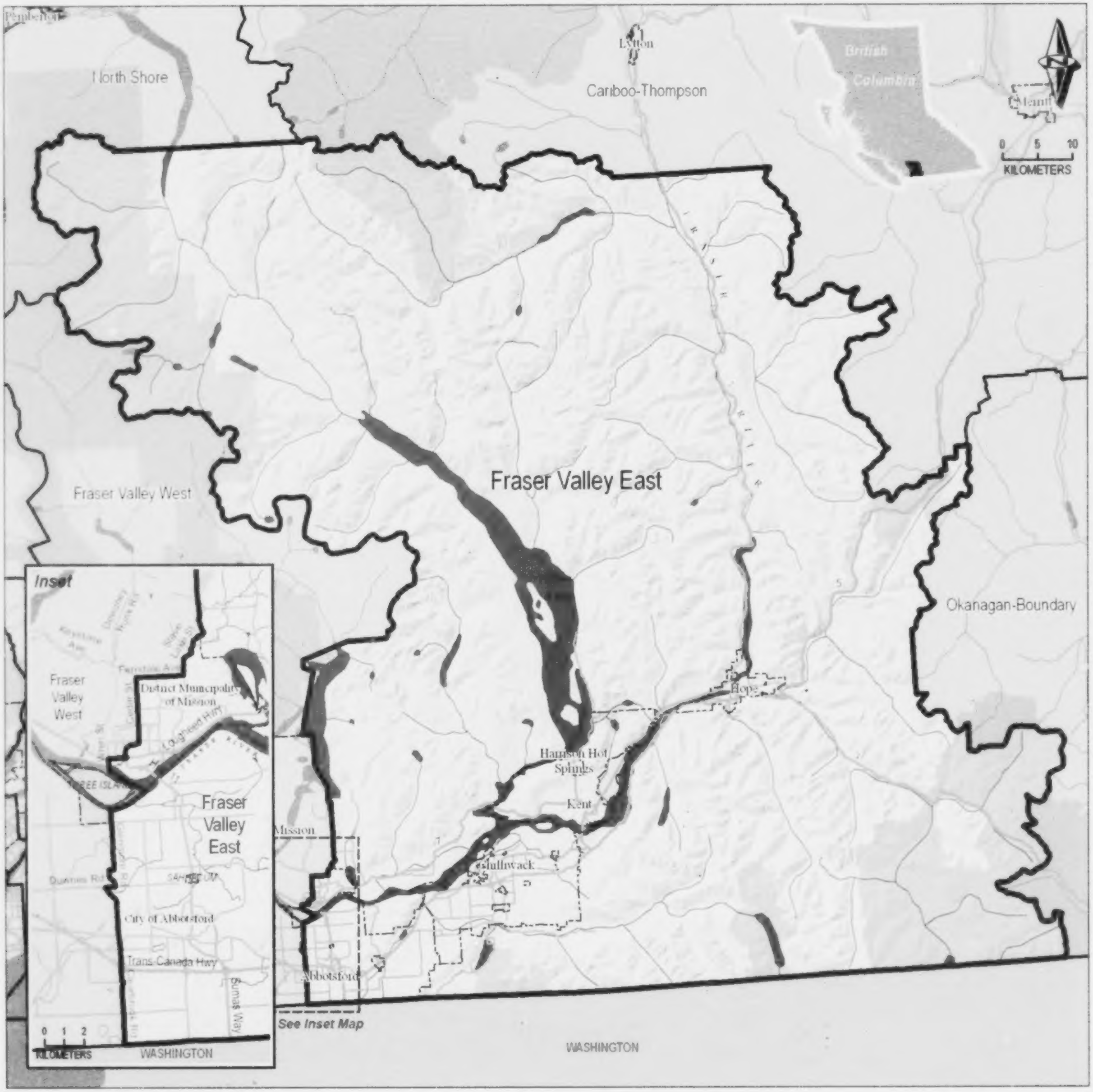
Region: Okanagan – Proposed Okanagan-Boundary BC-STV Electoral District


Inset
Okanagan-Shuswap
Tranch Pl
High Rd
Okanagan-Boundary
City of Kelowna
High Rd
Glenmore Dr
Gordon Dr
Richter St
Harvey Ave
Springfield Rd
Pandosy St
Gordon Dr
500 1,000
METERS
Chase
Salmon Arm
Mabel
Lake
Enderby
97A
Spallumcheen
Sugar
Lake
0 7.5 15
KILOMETERS
Nakusp
Lumby
Vernon
Coldstream
Lake Country
Okanagan-Shuswap
Columbia-Kootenay
Merritt
Cariboo-Thompson
See Inset Map
Kelowna
Okanagan
Lake
Peachland
Summerland
Penticton
Princeton
Okanagan-Boundary
SIMILKAMEEN RIVER
Keremeos
Oliver
Greenwood
Grand Forks
Paulson
Midway
Osoyoos
Eastgate
Fraser Valley East
WASHINGTON
British
Columbia

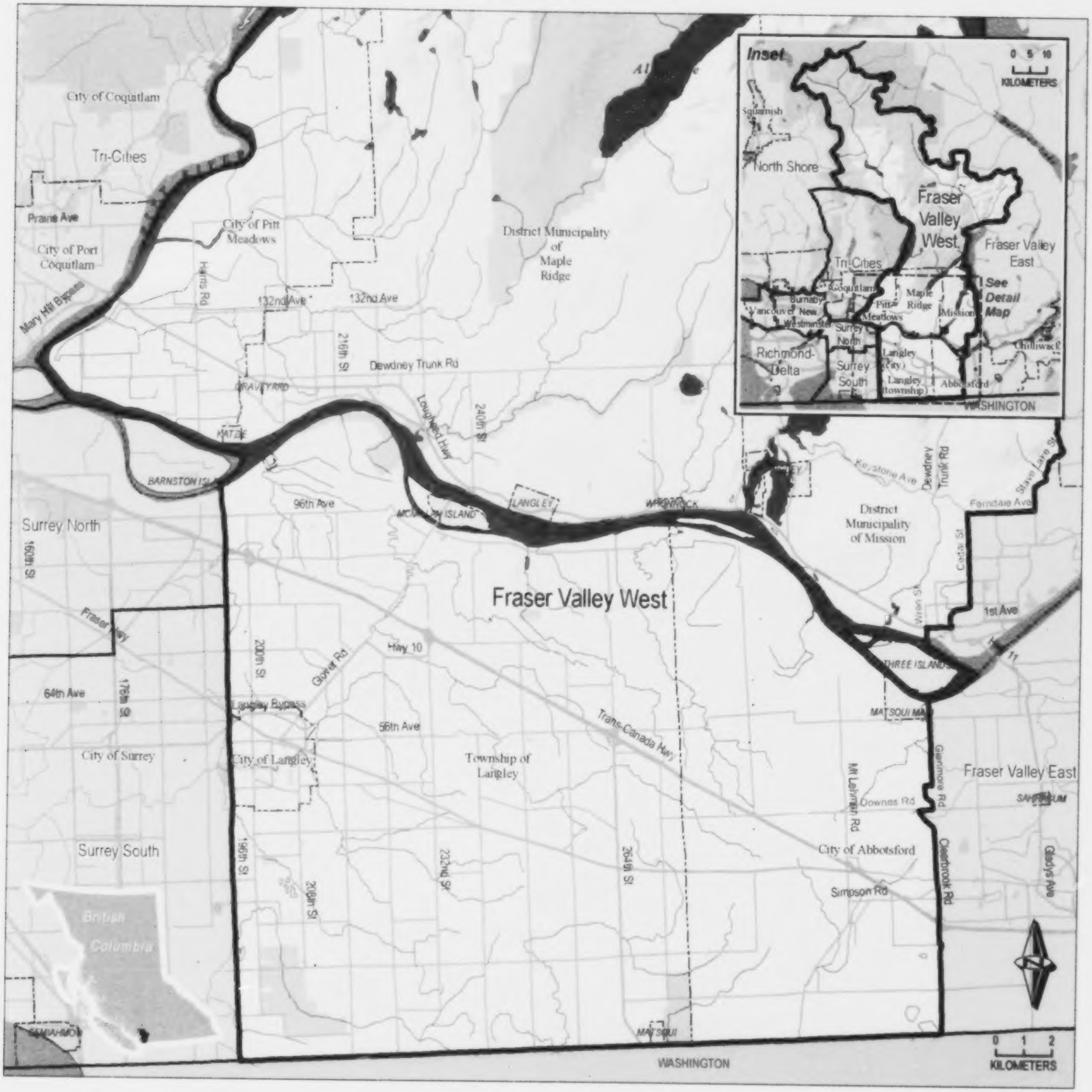
Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Columbia-Kootenay BC-STV Electoral District


North Central
Cariboo-Thompson
Kinbasket
Mica Creek
Lake
British Columbia
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
ALBERTA
Golden
Columbia River
Kootenay
Duncan
Revelstoke
Sicamous
Shelter Bay
Radium Hot Springs
93/95
Invermere
Fairmont Hot Springs
Duncan Lake
Okanagan-Shuswap
Upper Arrow Lake
Columbia-Kootenay
Canal Flats
Armstrong
Spallumcheen
Nakusp
Elkford
Vernon
6
31A
Kootenay
New Denver
Silverton
Kaslo
Slocan Lake
Sparwood
Fauquier
Slocan
95A
Kimberley
33
Fernie
Cranbrook
Lower Arrow Lake
Lake
3A
3A/6
Nelson
Koocanusa Lake
Okanagan-Boundary
Castlegar
Salmo
Creston
Paulson
Christina Lake
Rossland
Trail
Fruitvale
MONTANA
Grand Forks
IDAHO
WASHINGTON
Osoyoos

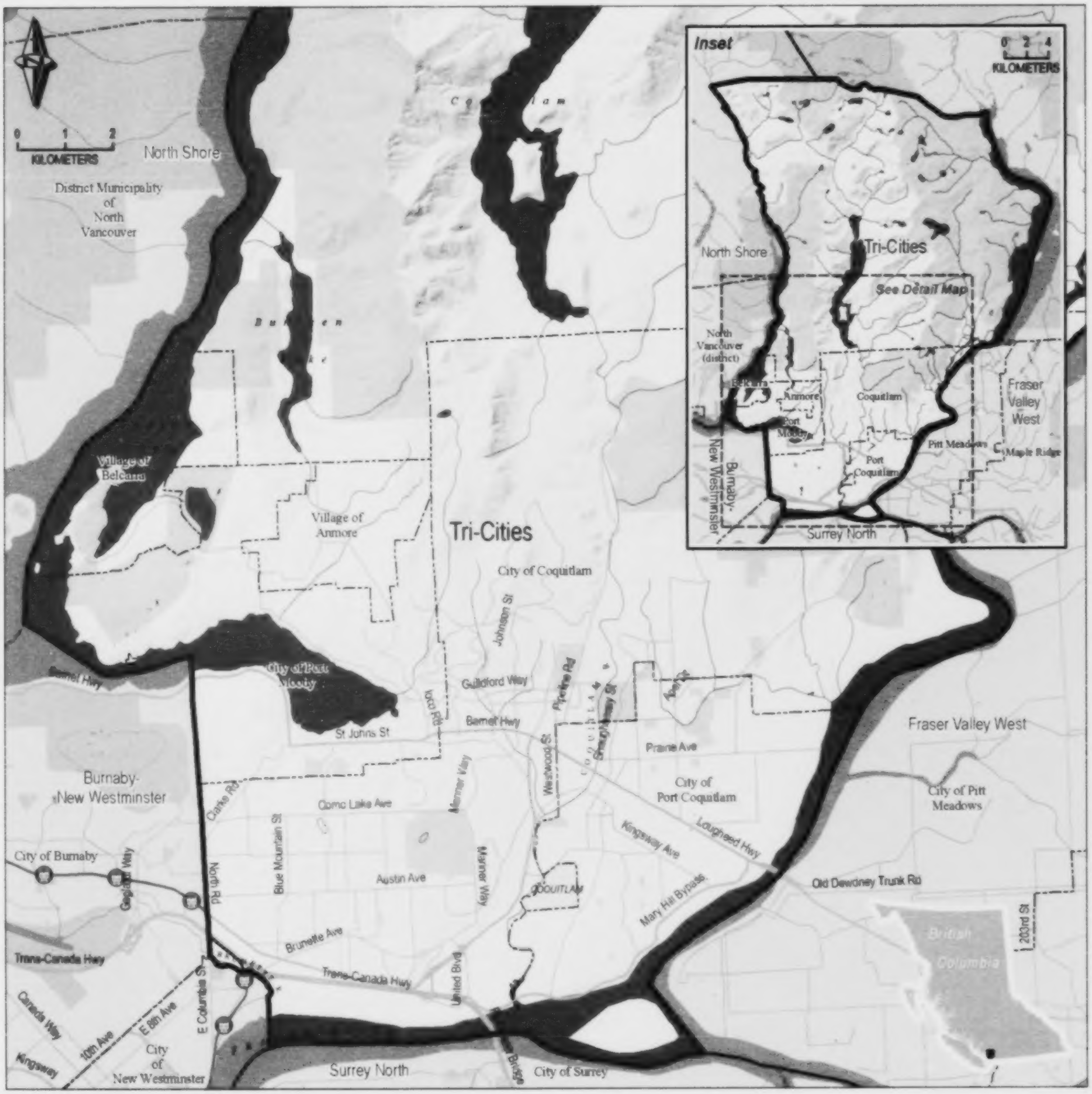
Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Fraser Valley East BC-STV Electoral District


Pemberton
North Shore
Lytton
Cariboo-Thompson
British Columbia
Merritt
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
Fraser Valley East
Fraser Valley West
Okanagan-Boundary
Hope
Harrison Hot Springs
Kent
Mission
Chilliwack
Abbotsford
See Inset Map
WASHINGTON
Inset
Keystone Ave
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Stave Lake St
Ferndale Ave
Fraser Valley West
District Municipality of Mission
Cedar St
Lougheed Hwy
Fraser River
Three Islands
Fraser Valley East
Mission
Downes Rd
SAHHACUM
City of Abbotsford
Trans-Canada Hwy
Sumas Way
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
WASHINGTON

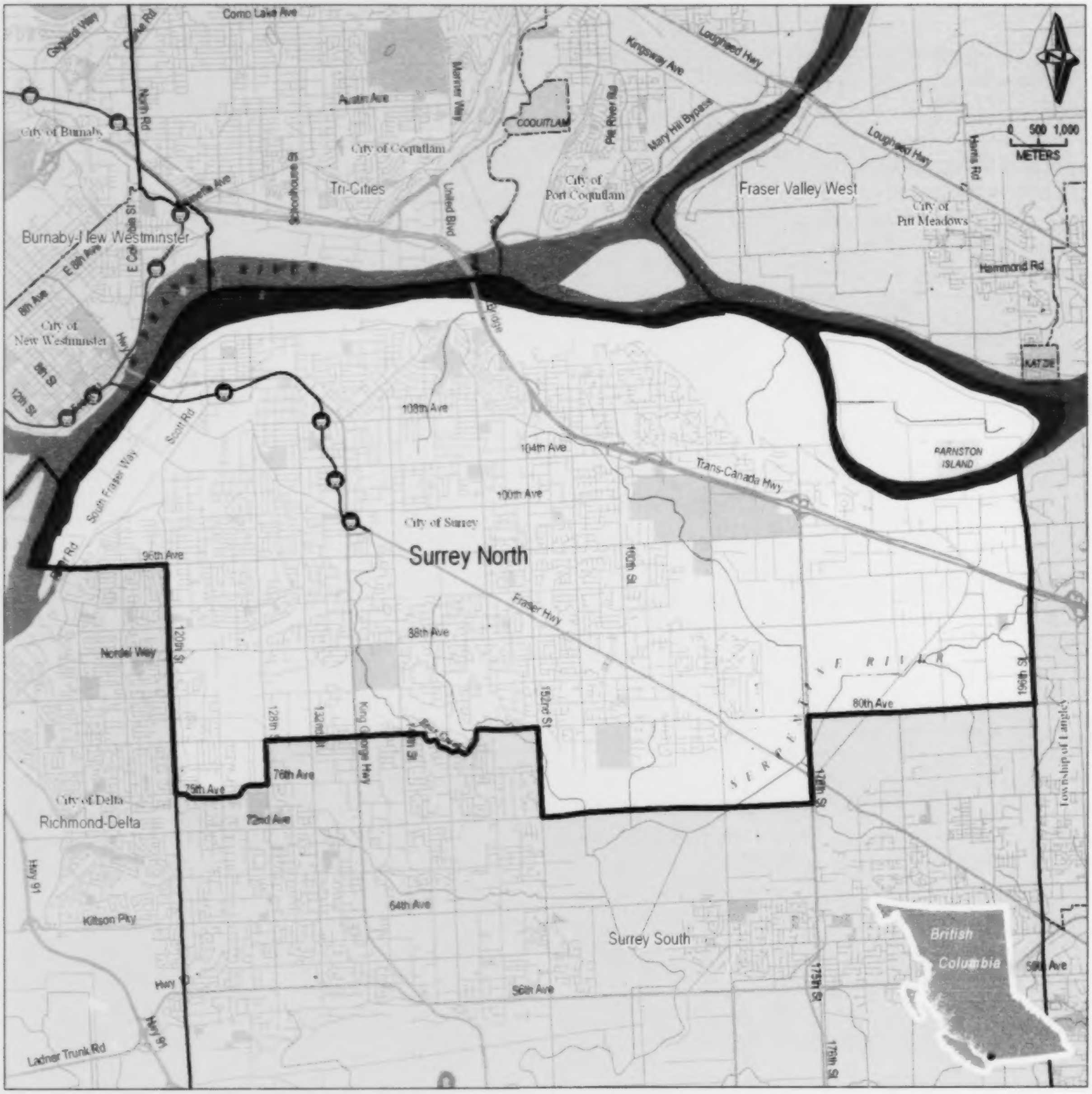
Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Fraser Valley West BC-STV Electoral District


City of Coquitlam
Tri-Cities
Prairie Ave
City of Port Coquitlam
Mary Hill Bypass
City of Pitt Meadows
Harris Rd
132nd Ave
132nd Ave
216th St
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Lougheed Hwy
240th St
District Municipality of Maple Ridge
KATZIE
BARNSTON ISLAND
96th Ave
MCMILLAN ISLAND
LANGLEY
WHONNOCK
Surrey North
160th St
Fraser Hwy
Fraser Valley West
Hwy 10
Glover Rd
200th St
64th Ave
176th St
Langley Bypass
56th Ave
Trans-Canada Hwy
City of Surrey
City of Langley
Township of Langley
Surrey South
196th St
208th St
232nd St
264th St
British Columbia
SEMIAHMOO
MATSQUI
WASHINGTON
Keystone Ave
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Stave Lake St
Ferndale Ave
District Municipality of Mission
Cedar St
Wren St
1st Ave
THREE ISLANDS
11
MATSQUI MAIN
Mt Lehman Rd
Glenmore Rd
Downes Rd
Fraser Valley East
SAHHACUM
City of Abbotsford
Clearbrook Rd
Simpson Rd
Gladys Ave
0 1 2
KILOMETERS
Inset
0 5 10
KILOMETERS
Squamish
North Shore
Fraser Valley West
Fraser Valley East
Tri-Cities
Coquitlam
Burnaby
Vancouver
New Westminster
Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge
Mission
See Detail Map
Surrey North
Richmond-Delta
Surrey South
Langley (city)
Langley (township)
Abbotsford
Chilliwack
WASHINGTON

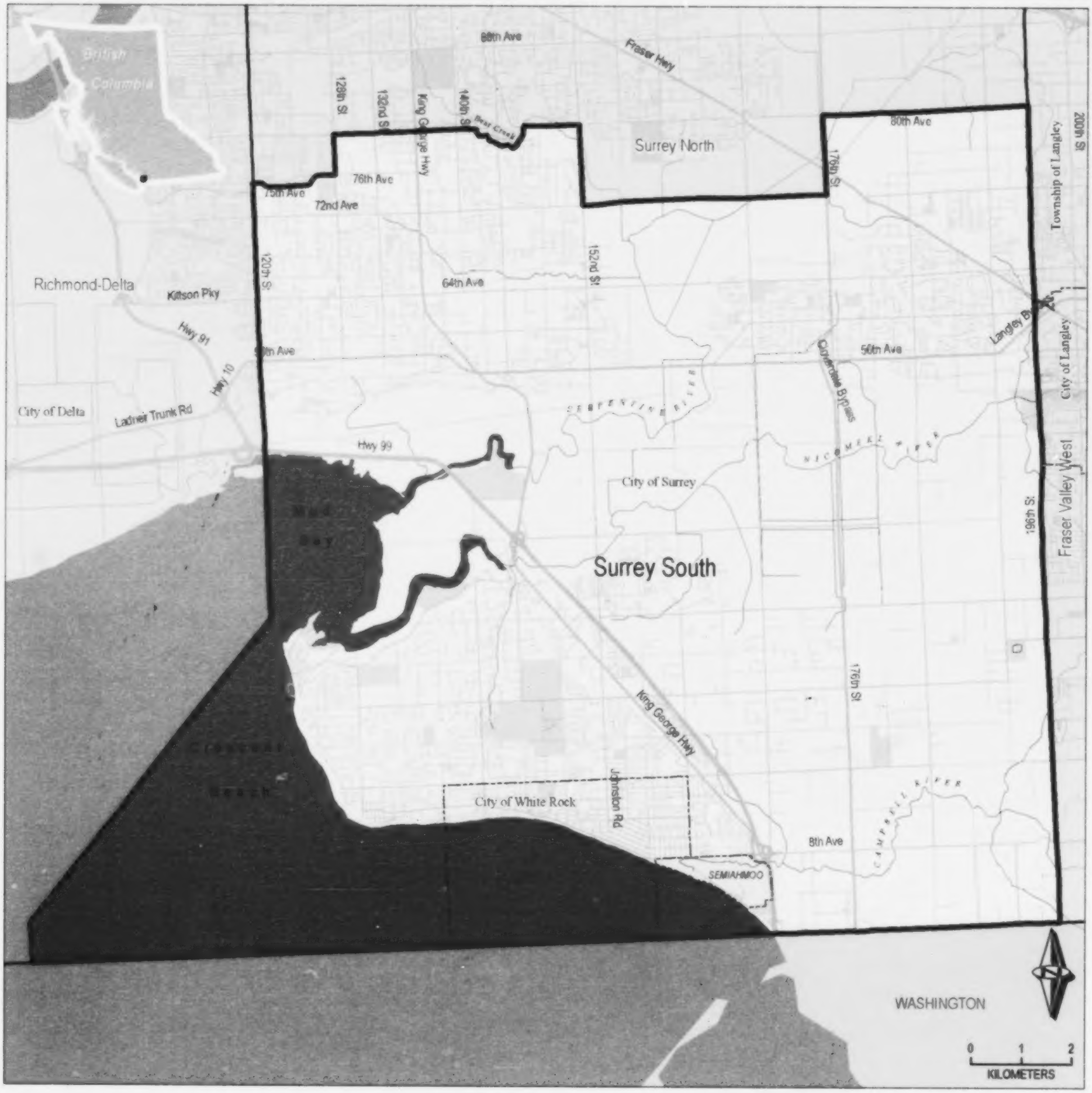
Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Tri-Cities BC-STV Electoral District


0 1 2
KILOMETERS
North Shore
District Municipality of North Vancouver
Coquitlam Lake
Buntzen Lake
Village of Belcarra
Village of Anmore
Tri-Cities
City of Coquitlam
City of Port Moody
Barnet Hwy
Ioco Rd
Johnson St
Guildford Way
Pipeline Rd
Shaughnessy St
St Johns St
Westwood St
Coquitlam
Prairie Ave
City of Port Coquitlam
Burnaby-New Westminster
Clarke Rd
Como Lake Ave
Mariner Way
Blue Mountain St
North Rd
Austin Ave
Gaglardi Way
City of Burnaby
Kingsway Ave
Lougheed Hwy
Mary Hill Bypass
Old Dewdney Trunk Rd
Fraser Valley West
City of Pitt Meadows
203rd St
Brunette Ave
Trans-Canada Hwy
United Blvd
E Columbia St
E 8th Ave
10th Ave
Canada Way
Kingsway
City of New Westminster
Surrey North
City of Surrey
Port Mann Bridge
British Columbia
Inset
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
North Shore
Tri-Cities
See Detail Map
North Vancouver (district)
Belcarra
Anmore
Coquitlam
Port Moody
Port Coquitlam
Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge
Fraser Valley West
Burnaby-New Westminster
Surrey North

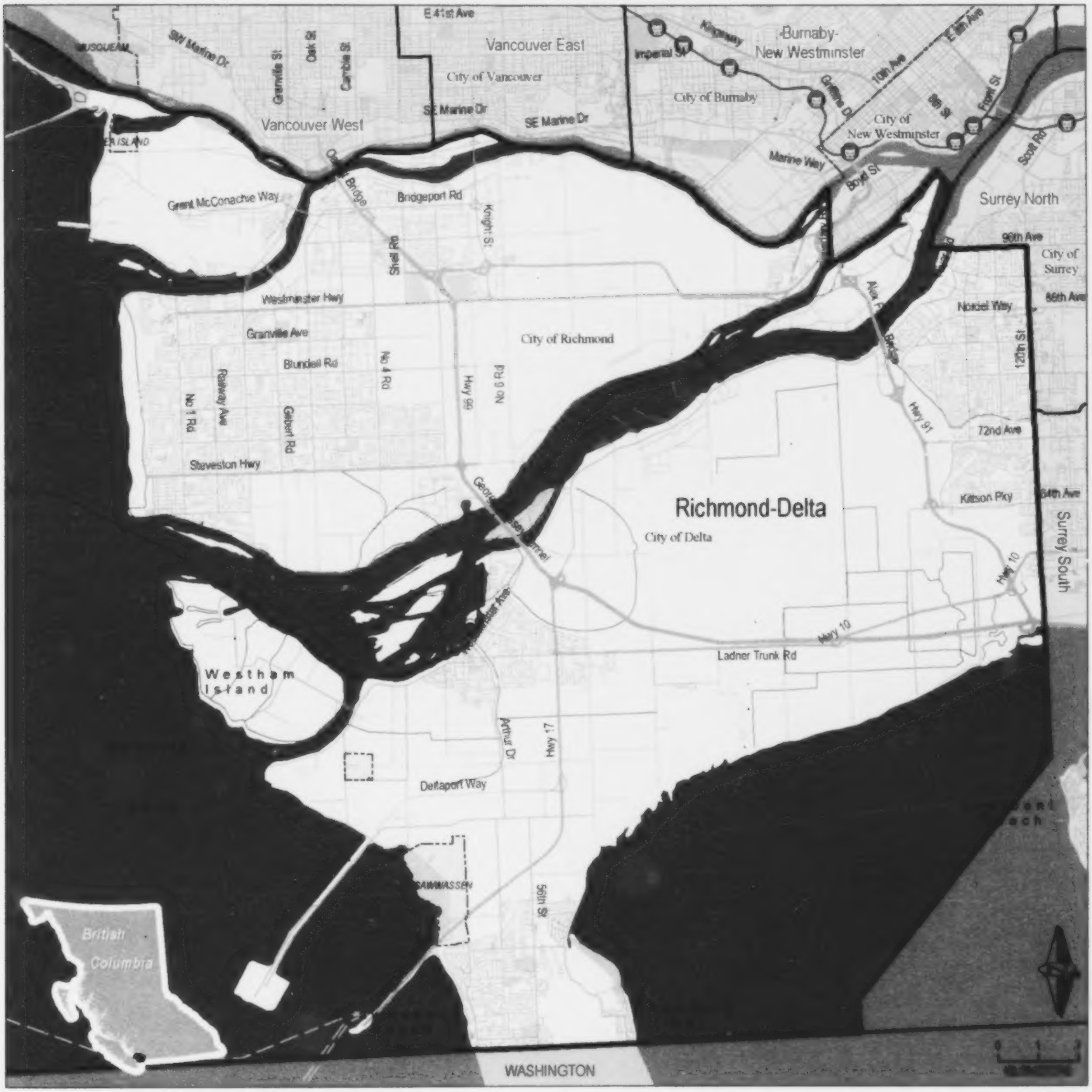
Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey North BC-STV Electoral District


Como Lake Ave
Gaglardi Way
Clarke Rd
North Rd
Austin Ave
Mariner Way
COQUITLAM
Pitt River Rd
Kingsway Ave
Lougheed Hwy
Mary Hill Bypass
City of Burnaby
City of Coquitlam
Schoolhouse St
Tri-Cities
United Blvd
City of Port Coquitlam
Fraser Valley West
City of Pitt Meadows
Harris Rd
0 500 1,000
METERS
Brunette Ave
E Columbia St
Burnaby-New Westminster
E 8th Ave
8th Ave
City of New Westminster
Hwy
6th St
12th St
Hammond Rd
Bridge
KATZIE
108th Ave
Scott Rd
104th Ave
South Fraser Way
Trans-Canada Hwy
BARNSTON ISLAND
100th Ave
City of Surrey
Surrey North
96th Ave
160th St
Fraser Hwy
88th Ave
Nordel Way
120th St
SERPENTINE RIVER
196th St
80th Ave
128th St
132nd St
King George Hwy
152nd St
76th Ave
75th Ave
72nd Ave
176th St
City of Delta
Richmond-Delta
Township of Langley
Hwy 91
64th Ave
Kittson Pky
Surrey South
British Columbia
56th Ave
Hwy 10
Hwy 91
176th St
Ladner Trunk Rd
175th St

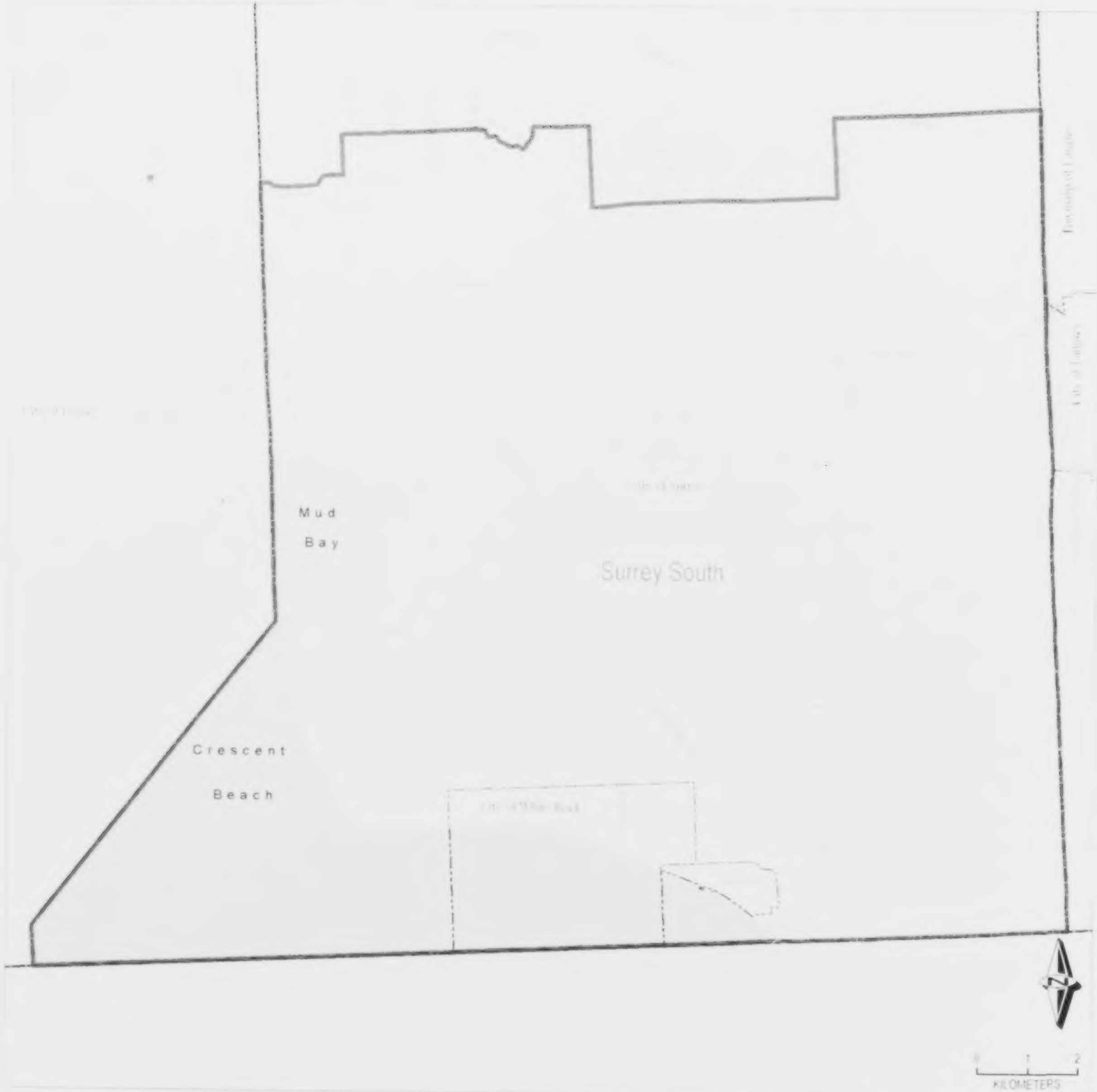
Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey South BC-STV Electoral District


British Columbia
88th Ave
Fraser Hwy
128th St
132nd St
King George Hwy
140th St
Bear Creek
Surrey North
80th Ave
176th St
200th St
Township of Langley
76th Ave
75th Ave
72nd Ave
120th St
152nd St
64th Ave
Richmond-Delta
Kittson Pky
Hwy 91
Hwy 10
56th Ave
Langley Bypass
Cloverdale Bypass
City of Langley
City of Delta
Ladner Trunk Rd
Serpentine River
Nicomekl River
Hwy 99
City of Surrey
Mud Bay
196th St
Fraser Valley West
Surrey South
176th St
King George Hwy
Crescent Beach
Johnston Rd
City of White Rock
Campbell River
8th Ave
SEMIAHMOO
WASHINGTON
0
1
2
KILOMETERS

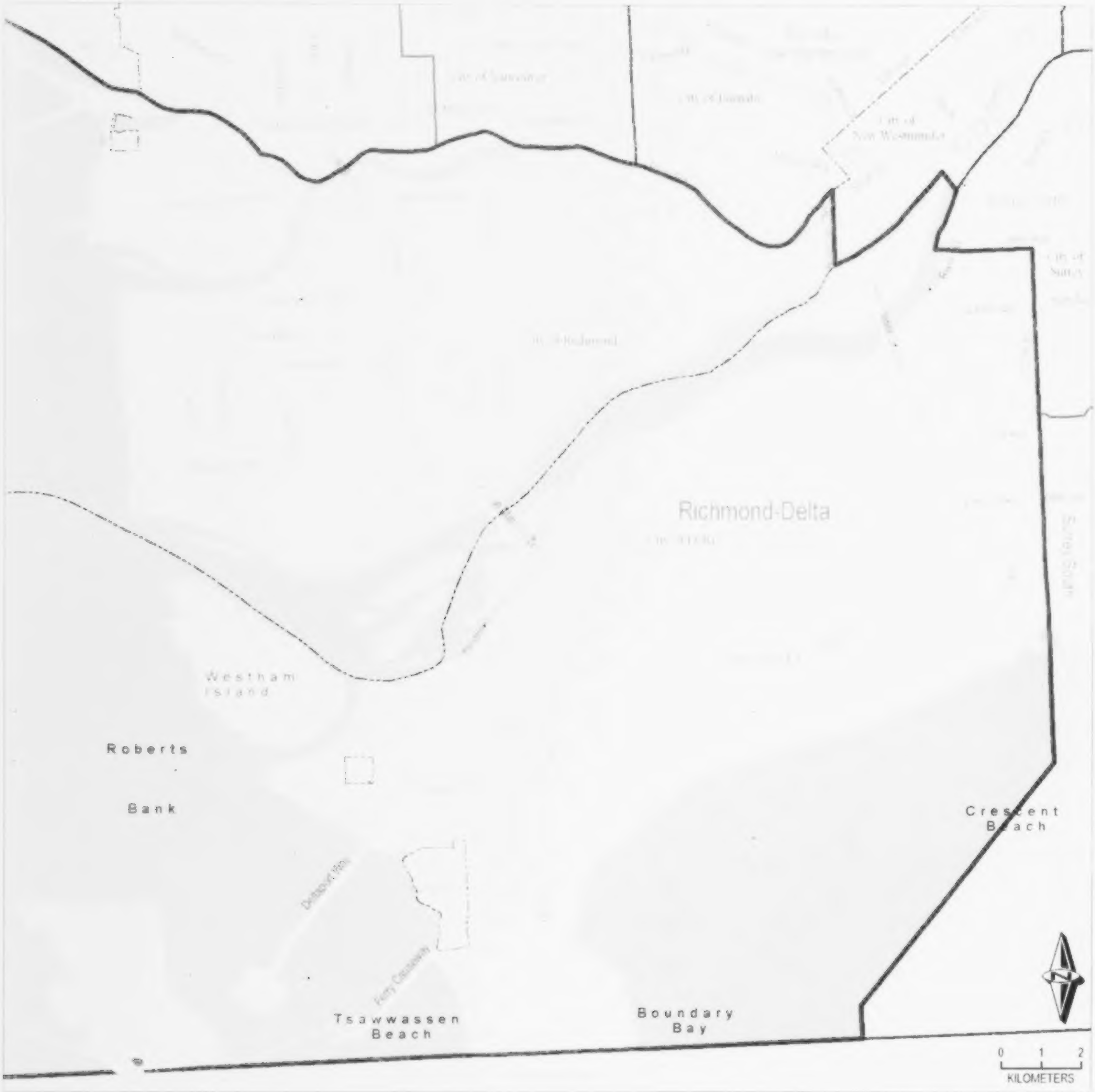
Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond-Delta BC-STV Electoral District


MUSQUEAM
SW Marine Dr
Granville St
Oak St
Cambie St
E 41st Ave
Vancouver East
City of Vancouver
SE Marine Dr
SE Marine Dr
Vancouver West
Kingsway
Imperial St
Burnaby-New Westminster
E 8th Ave
10th Ave
City of Burnaby
Griffiths Dr
6th St
Front St
City of New Westminster
Marine Way
Boyd St
Scott Rd
Oak St Bridge
Grant McConachie Way
Bridgeport Rd
Knight St
Shell Rd
Surrey North
96th Ave
City of Surrey
88th Ave
Nordel Way
Westminster Hwy
Alex Fraser Bridge
Granville Ave
City of Richmond
Blundell Rd
No 4 Rd
No 6 Rd
Hwy 99
Railway Ave
No 1 Rd
Gilbert Rd
120th St
Hwy 91
72nd Ave
Steveston Hwy
George Massey Tunnel
Richmond-Delta
City of Delta
Kittson Pky
64th Ave
Surrey South
Hwy 10
Hwy 10
Ladner Trunk Rd
Westham Island
Arthur Dr
Hwy 17
Deltaport Way
TSAWWASSEN
56th St
British Columbia
WASHINGTON
0
1
3

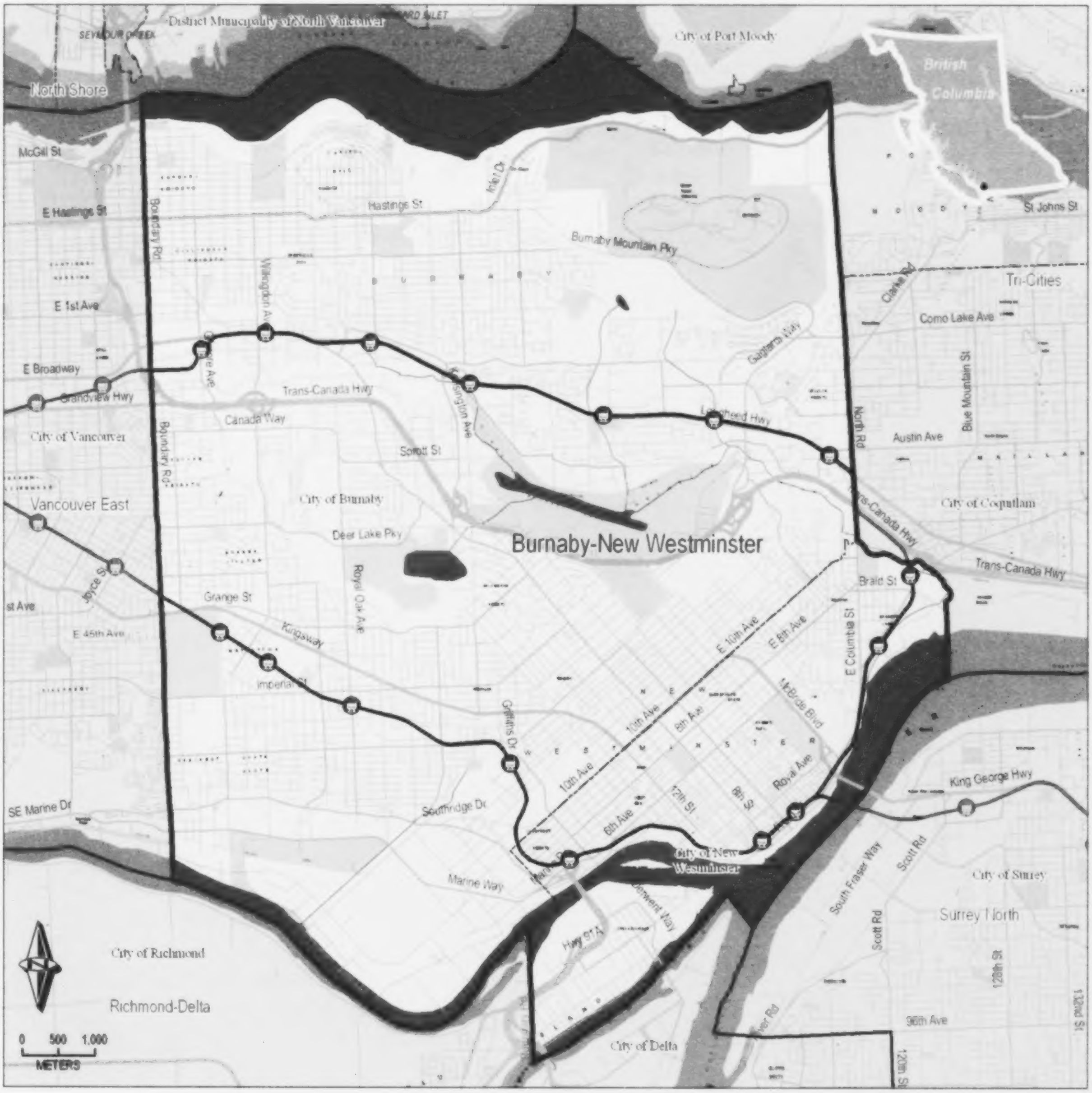
Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey South BC-STV Electoral District


Township of Langley
City of Langley
City of Surrey
Mud Bay
Surrey South
Crescent Beach
City of White Rock
N
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

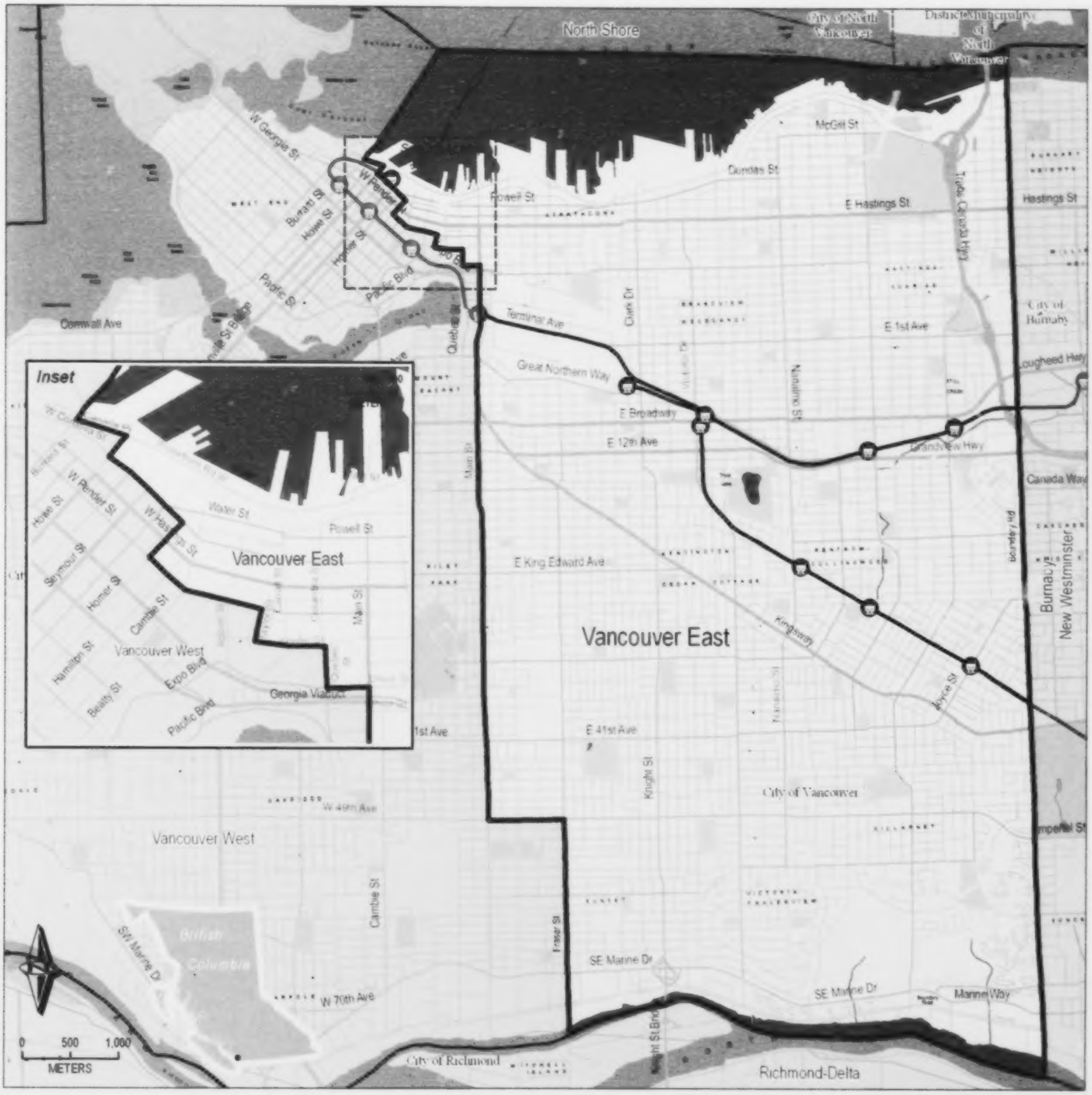
Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond-Delta BC-STV Electoral District


City of Vancouver
City of Burnaby
City of New Westminster
City of Surrey
City of Richmond
Richmond-Delta
City of Delta
Westham Island
Roberts Bank
Deltaport Way
Ferry Causeway
Crescent Beach
Tsawwassen Beach
Boundary Bay
0 1 2
KILOMETERS

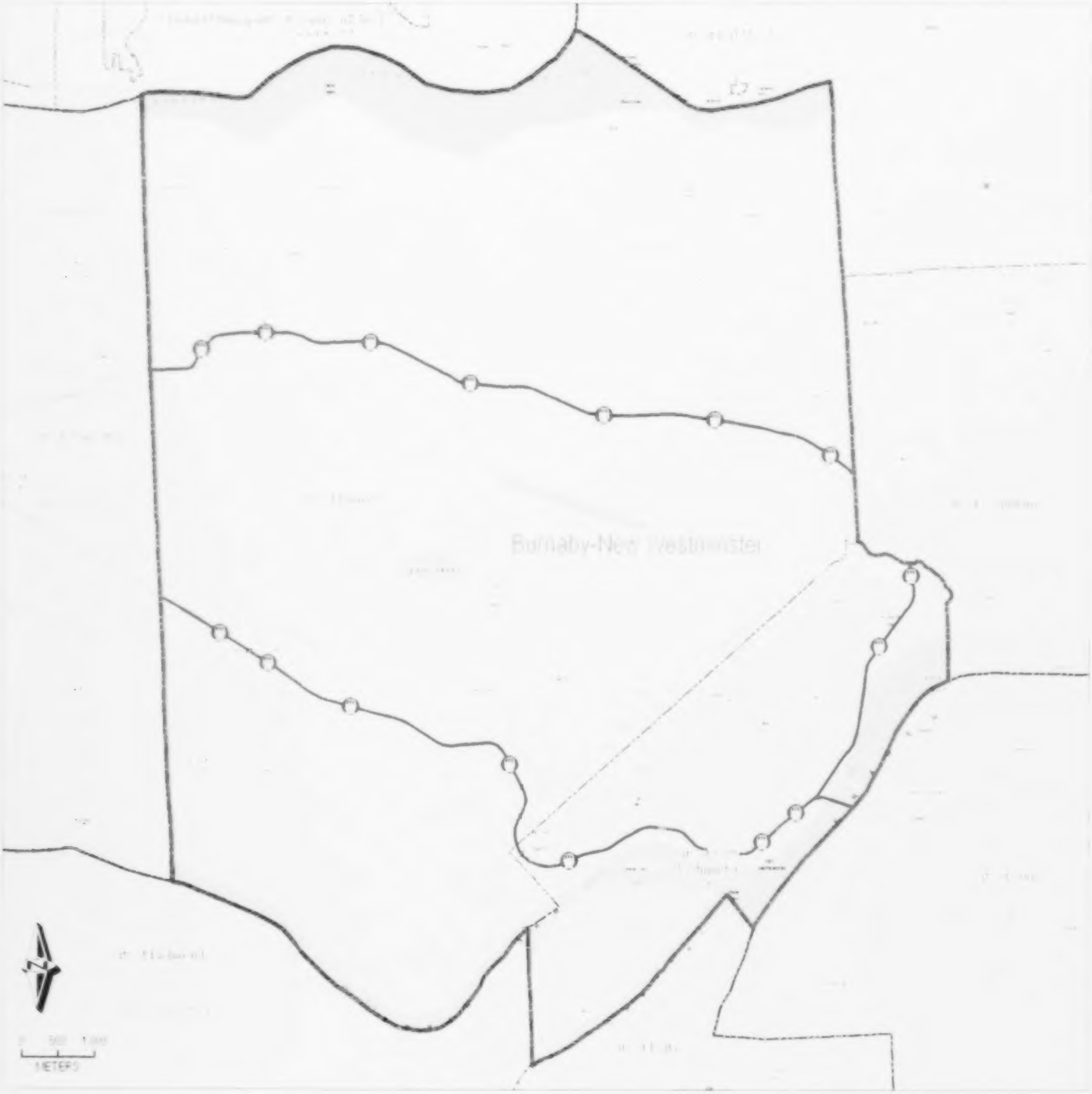
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby–New Westminster BC-STV Electoral District


District Municipality of North Vancouver
BURRARD INLET
SEYMOUR CREEK
City of Port Moody
British Columbia
North Shore
McGill St
Inlet Dr
E Hastings St
Hastings St
St Johns St
MOODY
Boundary Rd
Burnaby Mountain Pky
Willingdon Ave
BURNABY
Tri-Cities
Clarke Rd
E 1st Ave
Como Lake Ave
Gaglardi Way
Gilmore Ave
E Broadway
Kensington Ave
Grandview Hwy
Trans-Canada Hwy
Blue Mountain St
North Rd
Lougheed Hwy
Canada Way
City of Vancouver
Austin Ave
Sperling Ave
MAILLARDVILLE
Sprott St
City of Burnaby
City of Coquitlam
Vancouver East
Trans-Canada Hwy
Deer Lake Pky
Burnaby-New Westminster
Trans-Canada Hwy
Royal Oak Ave
Braid St
Joyce St
Grange St
st Ave
E 45th Ave
Kingsway
E 10th Ave
E 8th Ave
E Columbia St
Imperial St
NEW WESTMINSTER
McBride Blvd
Griffiths Dr
10th Ave
8th Ave
10th Ave
King George Hwy
SE Marine Dr
12th St
6th St
Royal Ave
Southridge Dr
6th Ave
City of New Westminster
Marine Way
Scott Rd
South Fraser Way
City of Surrey
Derwent Way
Surrey North
Hwy 91A
City of Richmond
Scott Rd
128th St
Richmond-Delta
132nd St
96th Ave
City of Delta
120th St
0 500 1,000
METERS

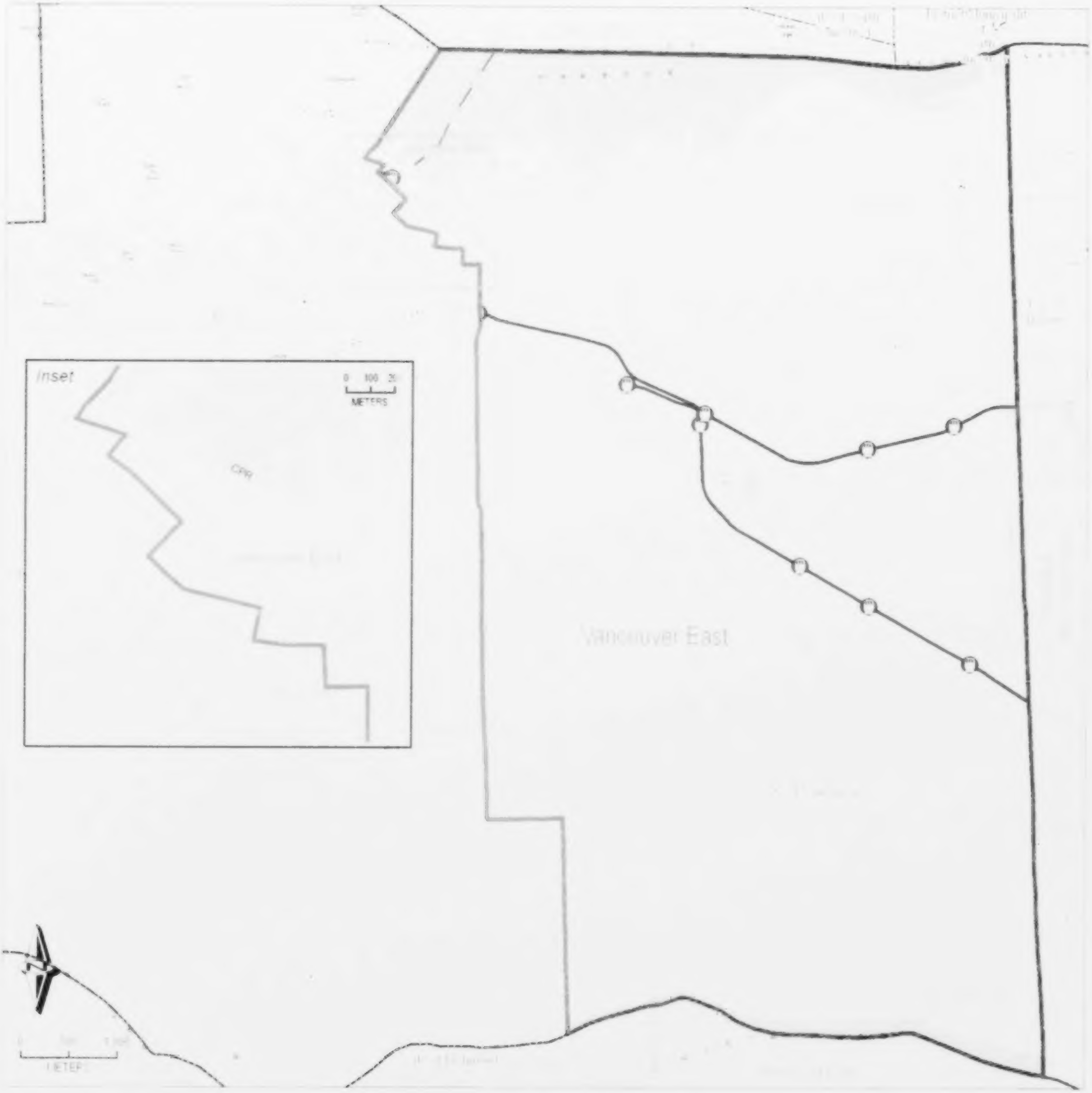
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver East BC-STV Electoral District


North Shore
City of North Vancouver
District Municipality of North Vancouver
W Georgia St
Burrard St
Howe St
Homer St
W Pender St
Pacific St
Pacific Blvd
Cornwall Ave
Powell St
McGill St
Dundas St
E Hastings St
Hastings St
Trans Canada Hwy
Terminal Ave
Quebec St
Clark Dr
E 1st Ave
City of Burnaby
Lougheed Hwy
Great Northern Way
Nanaimo St
E Broadway
E 12th Ave
Grandview Hwy
Canada Way
Main St
E King Edward Ave
Boundary Rd
Burnaby-New Westminster
Kingsway
Vancouver East
Joyce St
E 41st Ave
Knight St
City of Vancouver
W 49th Ave
Vancouver West
Cambie St
Fraser St
Imperial St
SW Marine Dr
British Columbia
SE Marine Dr
Marine Way
W 70th Ave
Knight St Bridge
City of Richmond
Richmond-Delta
0
500
1,000
METERS
Inset
W Cordova St
W Pender St
W Hastings St
Water St
Powell St
Vancouver East
Howe St
Seymour St
Homer St
Cambie St
Main St
Hamilton St
Vancouver West
Expo Blvd
Beatty St
Georgia Viaduct
Pacific Blvd
1st Ave

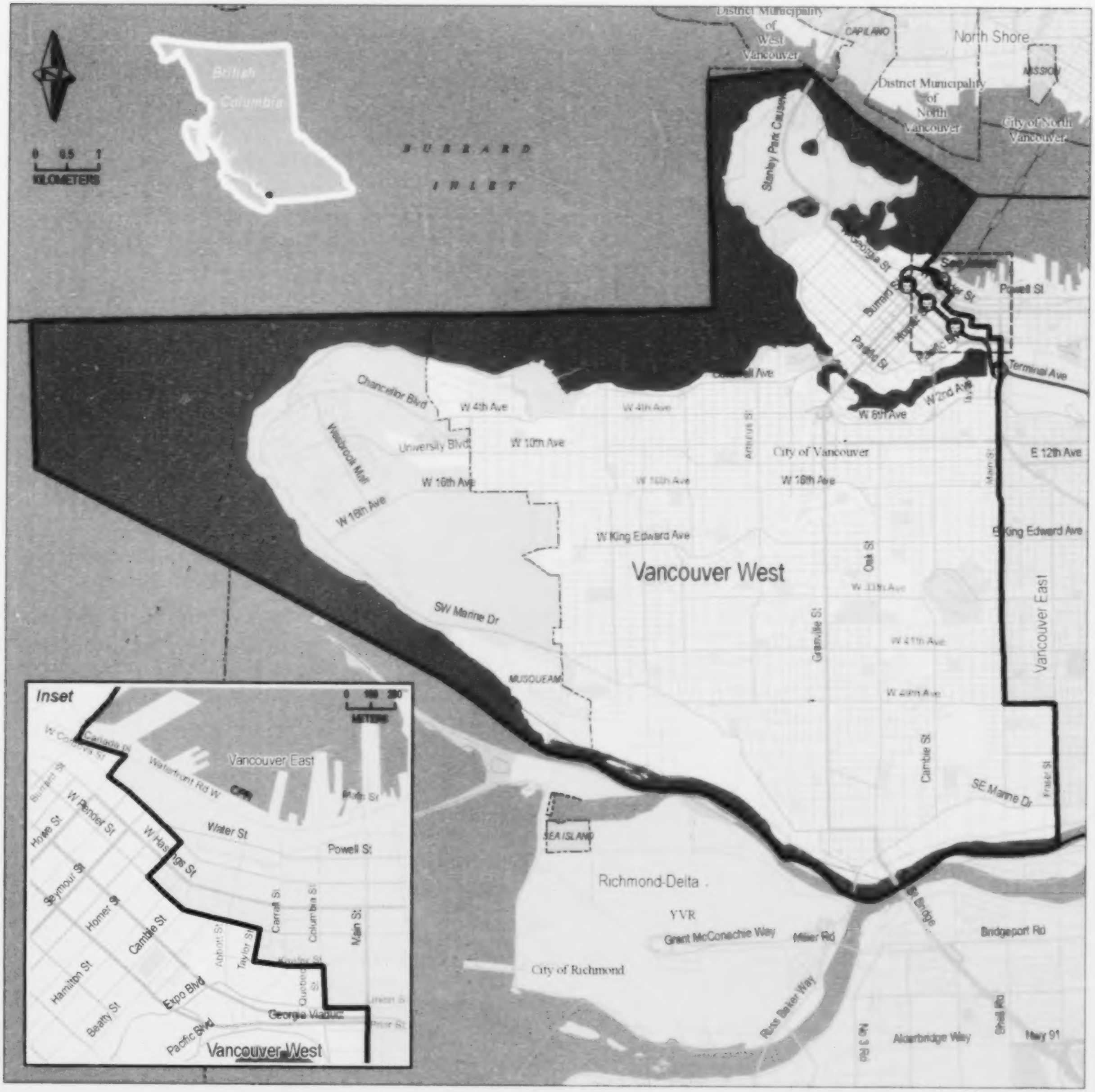
Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-New Westminster BC-STV Electoral District


Burnaby-New Westminster
0 500 1,000
METERS

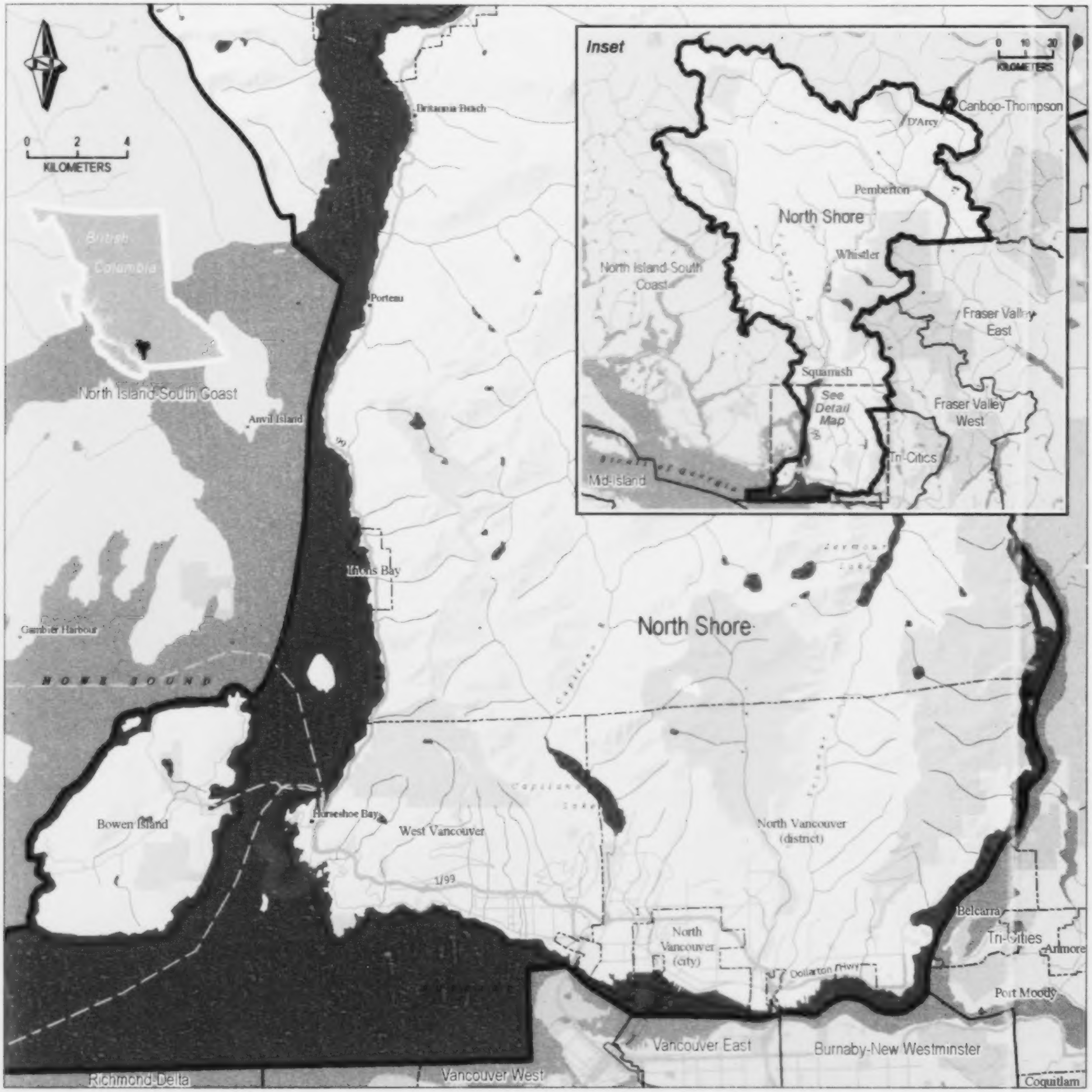
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver East BC-STV Electoral District


Inset
0 100 200
METERS
CPR
Vancouver East
METERS

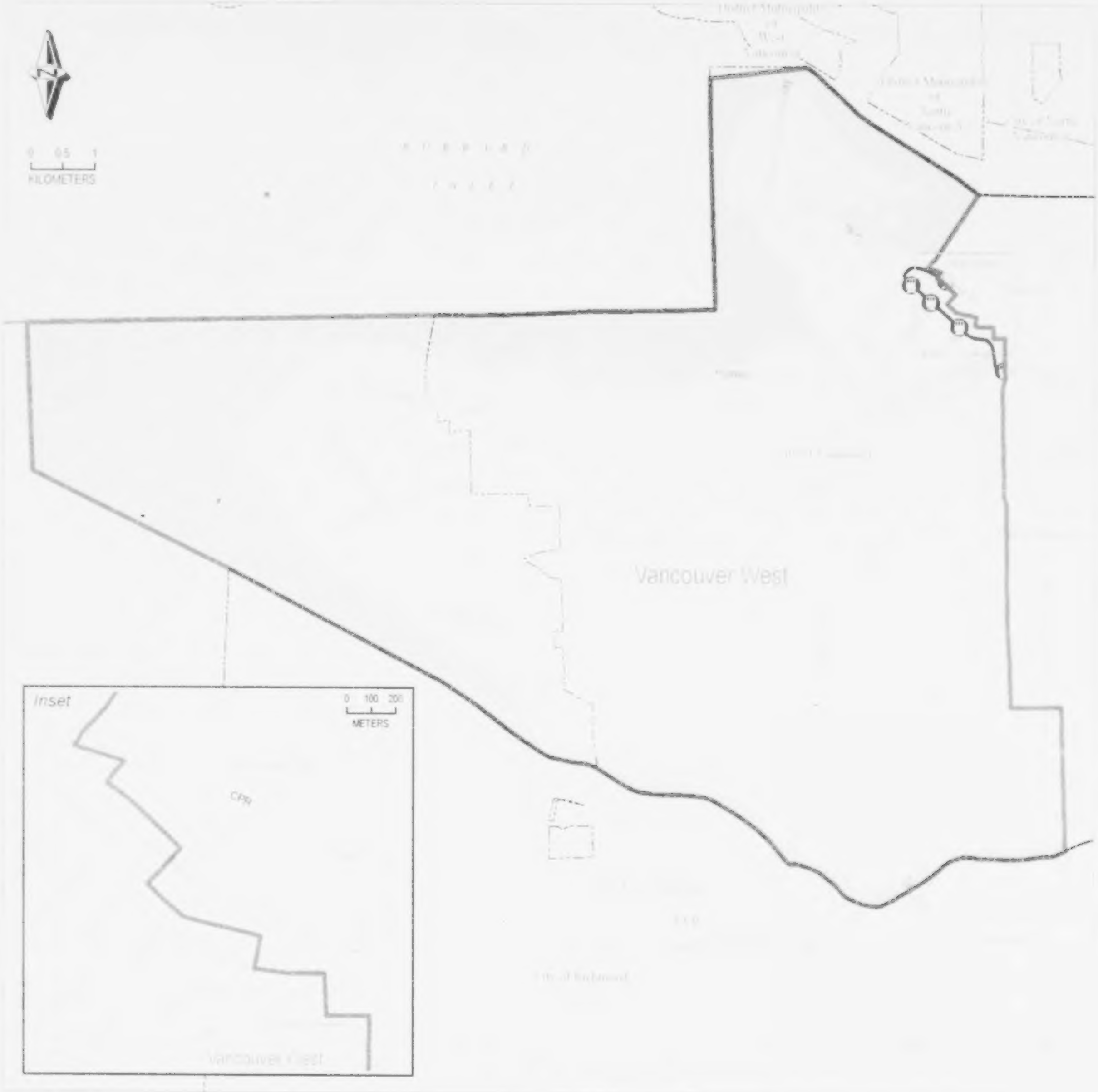
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver West BC-STV Electoral District


British Columbia
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
BURRARD INLET
District Municipality of West Vancouver
CAPILANO
North Shore
MISSION
District Municipality of North Vancouver
City of North Vancouver
Stanley Park Causeway
W Georgia St
Burrard St
Howe St
Pacific St
Powell St
Terminal Ave
Chancellor Blvd
W 4th Ave
W 4th Ave
Westbrook Mall
University Blvd
W 10th Ave
W 16th Ave
W 16th Ave
W 16th Ave
Arbutus St
City of Vancouver
W 16th Ave
W 2nd Ave
W 6th Ave
Main St
E 12th Ave
W King Edward Ave
E King Edward Ave
Vancouver West
Oak St
W 33rd Ave
SW Marine Dr
Granville St
W 41st Ave
MUSQUEAM
W 49th Ave
Vancouver East
Cambie St
SE Marine Dr
Fraser St
SEA ISLAND
Richmond-Delta
YVR
Grant McConachie Way
Miller Rd
Bridgeport Rd
City of Richmond
Russ Baker Way
No 3 Rd
Alderbridge Way
Shell Rd
Hwy 91
Inset
0 100 200
METERS
W Cordova St
Canada Pl
Waterfront Rd W
Vancouver East
Burrard St
W Pender St
Howe St
W Hastings St
Water St
Powell St
Seymour St
Homer St
Cambie St
Carrall St
Columbia St
Main St
Abbott St
Taylor St
Keefer St
Quebec St
Hamilton St
Expo Blvd
Beatty St
Georgia Viaduct
Union St
Prior St
Pacific Blvd
Vancouver West

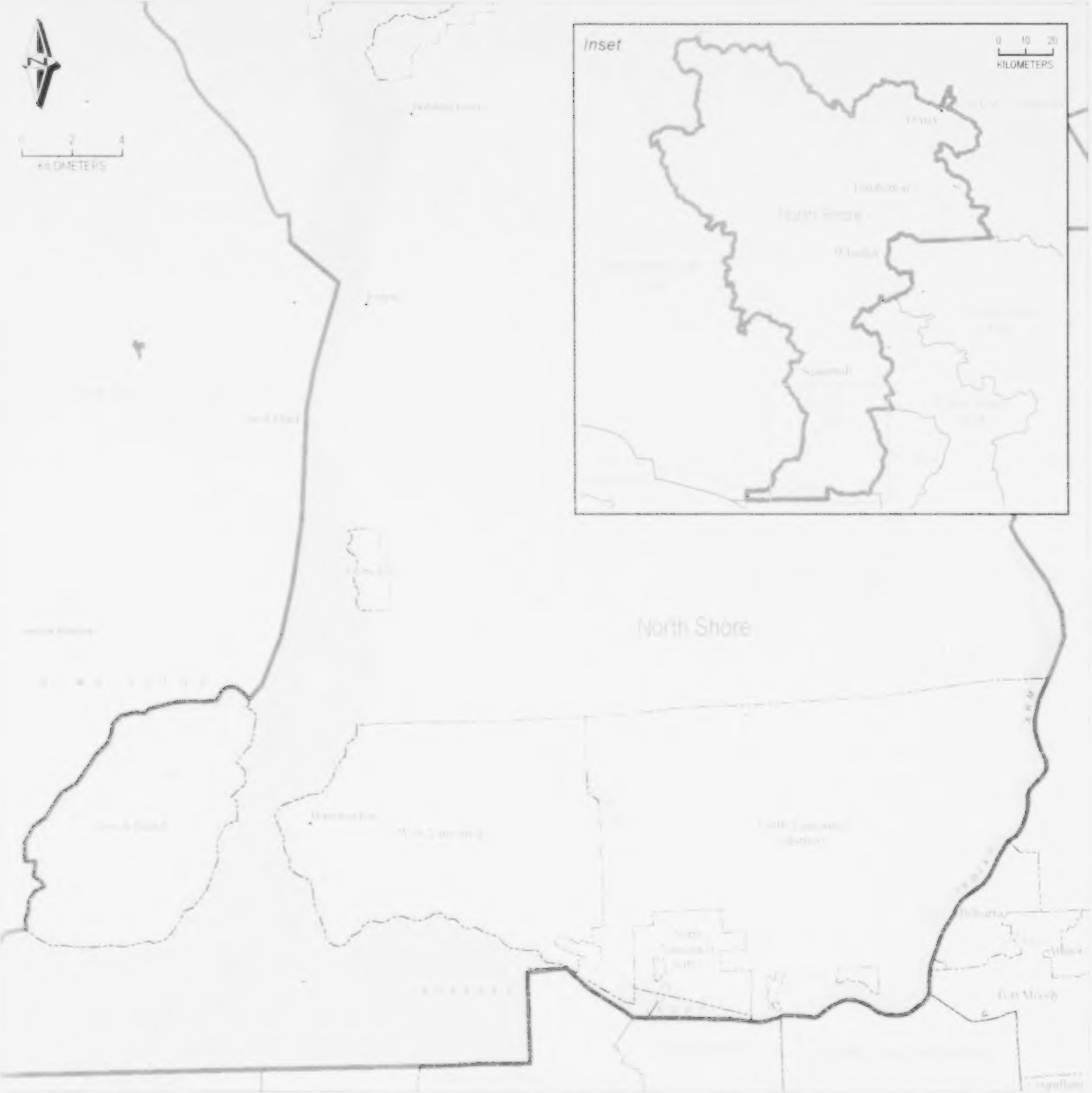
Region: North Shore – Proposed North Shore BC-STV Electoral District


Inset
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
Cariboo-Thompson
D'Arcy
Pemberton
North Shore
Whistler
North Island-South Coast
Fraser Valley East
Squamish
See Detail Map
Fraser Valley West
Tri-Cities
Strait of Georgia
Mid-Island
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
British Columbia
Britannia Beach
Porteau
North Island-South Coast
Anvil Island
99
Lions Bay
Gambier Harbour
HOWE SOUND
North Shore
Capilano
Capilano Lake
Bowen Island
Horseshoe Bay
West Vancouver
1/99
North Vancouver (district)
North Vancouver (city)
Dollarton Hwy
Belcarra
Tri-Cities
Anmore
Port Moody
Vancouver East
Burnaby-New Westminster
Richmond-Delta
Vancouver West
Coquitlam

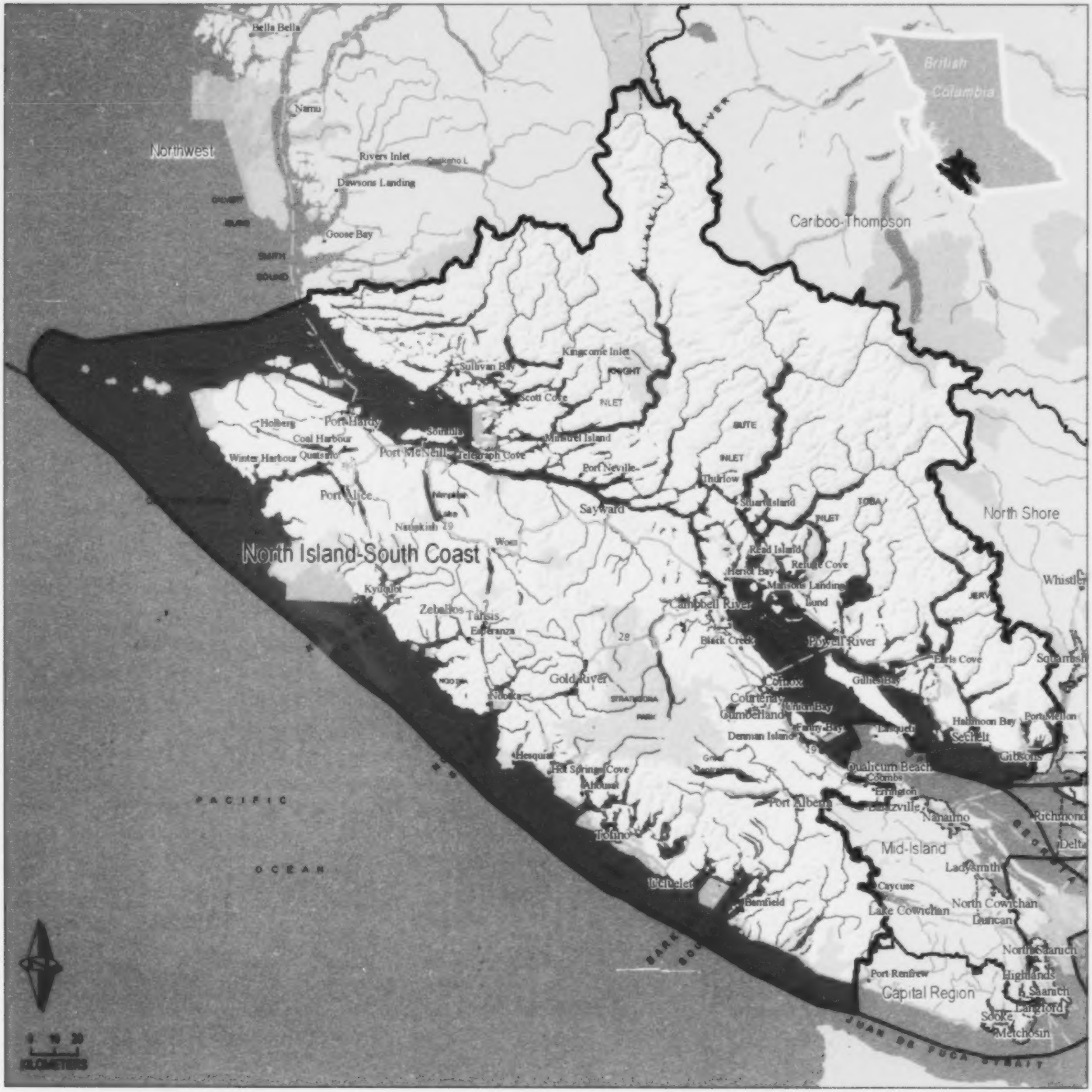
Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver West BC-STV Electoral District


District Municipality of West Vancouver
District Municipality of North Vancouver
City of North Vancouver
BURRARD INLET
0 0.5 1
KILOMETERS
Vancouver West
City of Richmond
Inset
0 100 200
METERS
CPR
Vancouver West

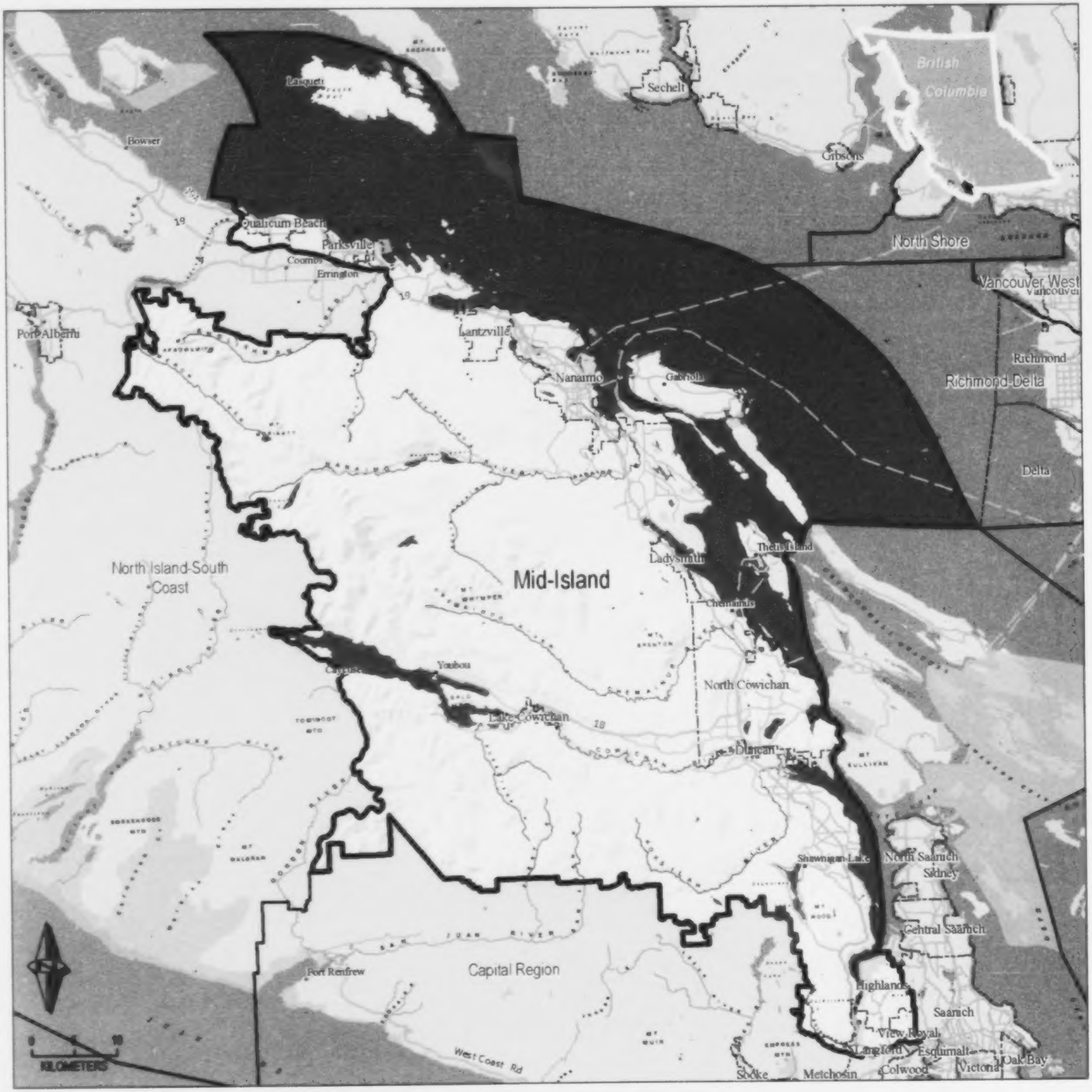
Region: North Shore – Proposed North Shore BC-STV Electoral District


Inset
0 10 20
KILOMETERS
North Shore
Pemberton
Whistler
Squamish
0 2 4
KILOMETERS
North Shore
Bowen Island
West Vancouver
North Vancouver District
North Vancouver City
Belcarra
Port Moody
Coquitlam

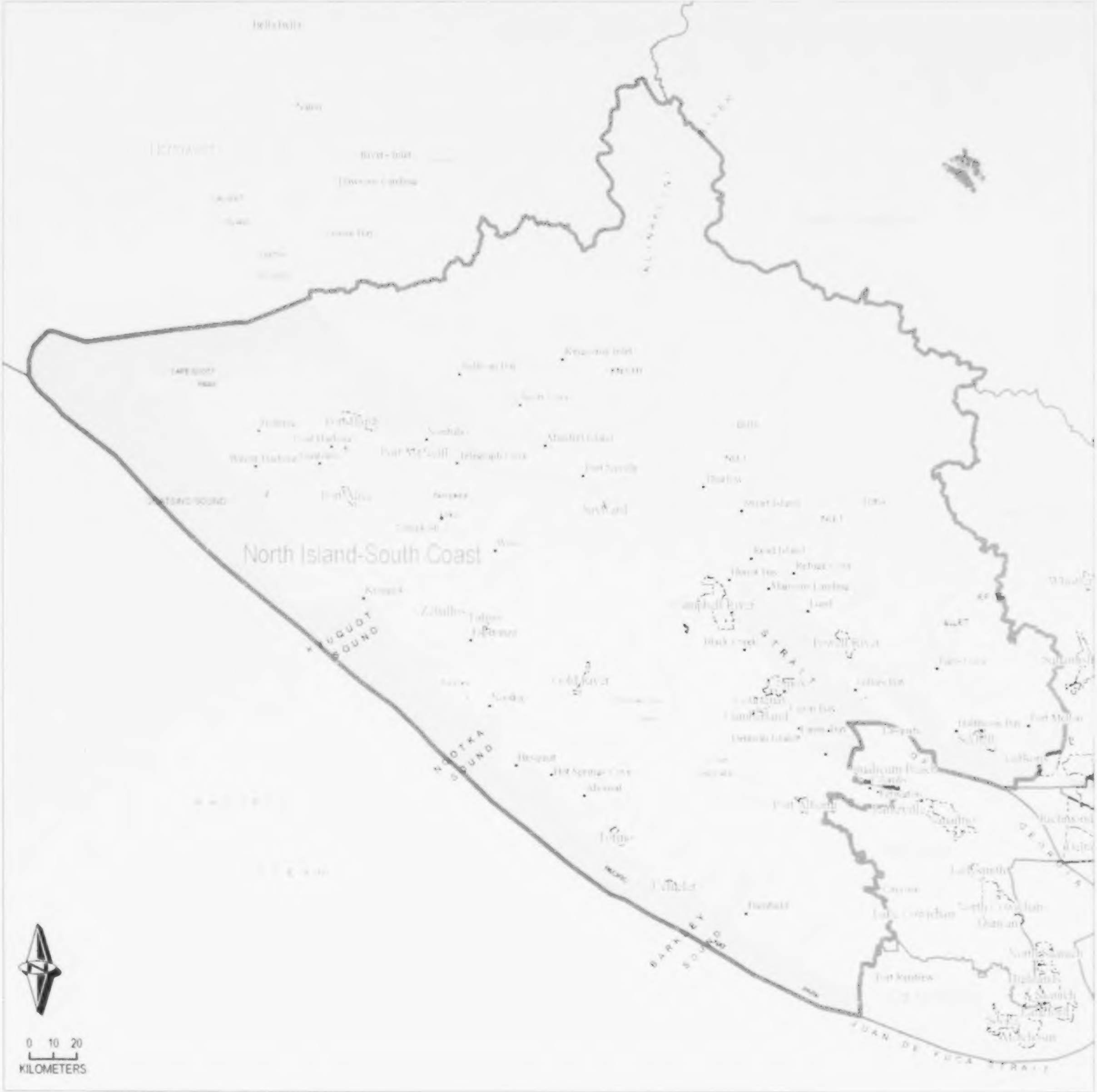
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed North Island–South Coast BC-STV Electoral Distric


Bella Bella
Namu
Northwest
Rivers Inlet
Owikeno L.
Dawsons Landing
Goose Bay
SMITH
SOUND
British
Columbia
Cariboo-Thompson
Kingcome Inlet
Sullivan Bay
Scott Cove
Holberg
Port Hardy
Coal Harbour
Sointula
Minstrel Island
Winter Harbour
Quatsino
Port McNeill
Telegraph Cove
Port Neville
Thurlow
Port Alice
Sayward
Stuart Island
North Shore
Nimpkish
Woss
North Island-South Coast
Read Island
Heriot Bay
Refuge Cove
Mansons Landing
Lund
Whistler
Kyuquot
Zeballos
Tahsis
Esperanza
Campbell River
Black Creek
Powell River
Earls Cove
Squamish
Gold River
Comox
Courtenay
Cumberland
Union Bay
Gillies Bay
Halfmoon Bay
Port Mellon
Nootka
Denman Island
Fanny Bay
Lasqueti
Sechelt
Gibsons
Hesquiat
Hot Springs Cove
Ahousat
Qualicum Beach
Coombs
Errington
Parksville
Nanaimo
Richmond
Delta
PACIFIC
OCEAN
Tofino
Port Alberni
Mid-Island
Ladysmith
Ucluelet
Bamfield
Caycuse
Lake Cowichan
North Cowichan
Duncan
North Saanich
Port Renfrew
Highlands
Capital Region
Saanich
Langford
Sooke
Metchosin
JUAN DE FUCA STRAIT
0 10 20
KILOMETERS

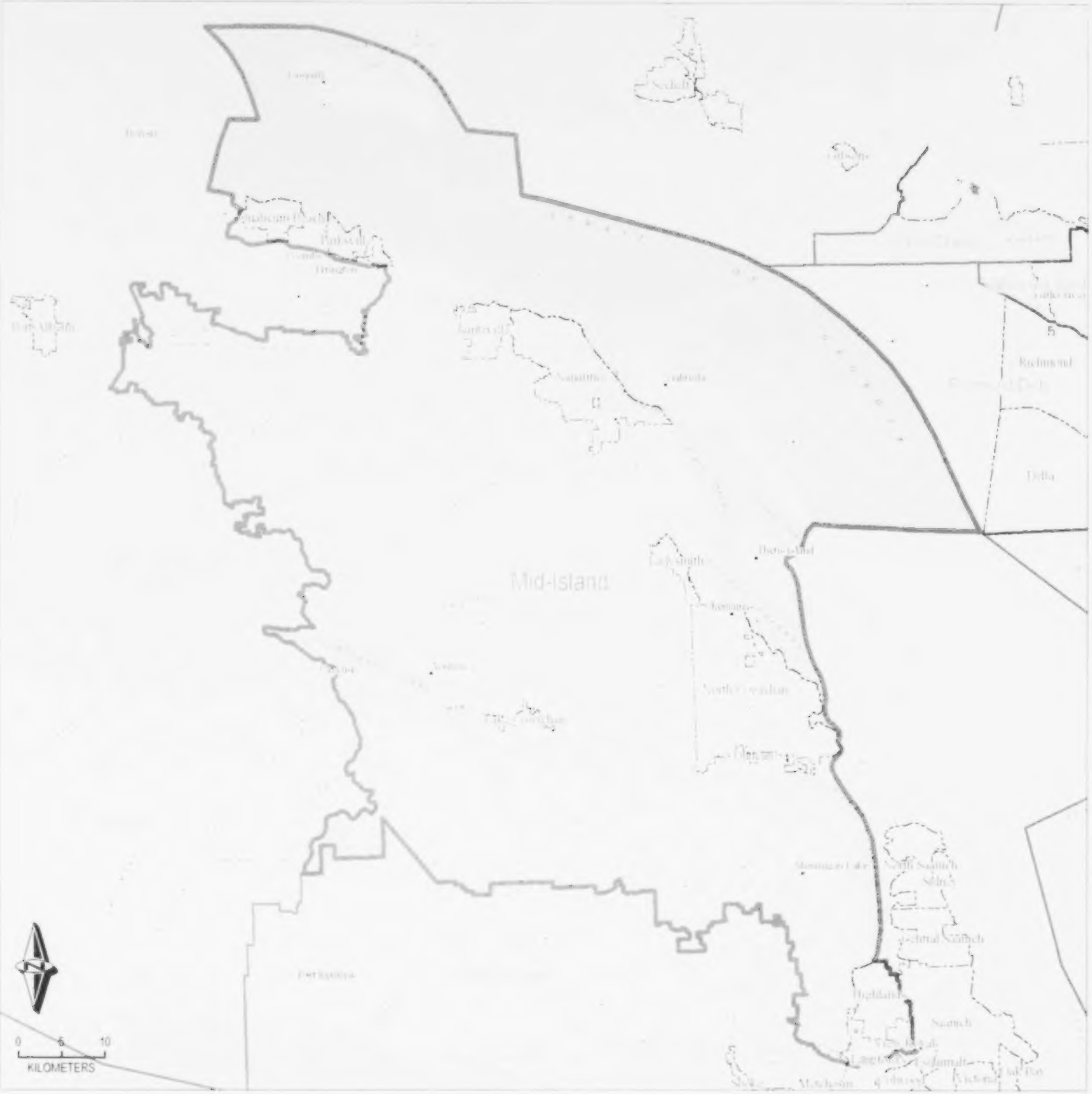
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Mid-Island BC-STV Electoral District


Lasqueti
Sechelt
British Columbia
Bowser
Gibsons
Qualicum Beach
Parksville
Coombs
Errington
North Shore
Vancouver West
Port Alberni
Lantzville
Richmond
Nanaimo
Gabriola
Richmond-Delta
Delta
Ladysmith
Thetis Island
North Island-South Coast
Mid-Island
Chemainus
Youbou
North Cowichan
Lake Cowichan
Duncan
Shawnigan Lake
North Saanich
Sidney
Central Saanich
Capital Region
Port Renfrew
Highlands
Saanich
View Royal
Langford
Esquimalt
Oak Bay
West Coast Rd
Sooke
Metchosin
Colwood
Victoria
0
5
10
KILOMETERS

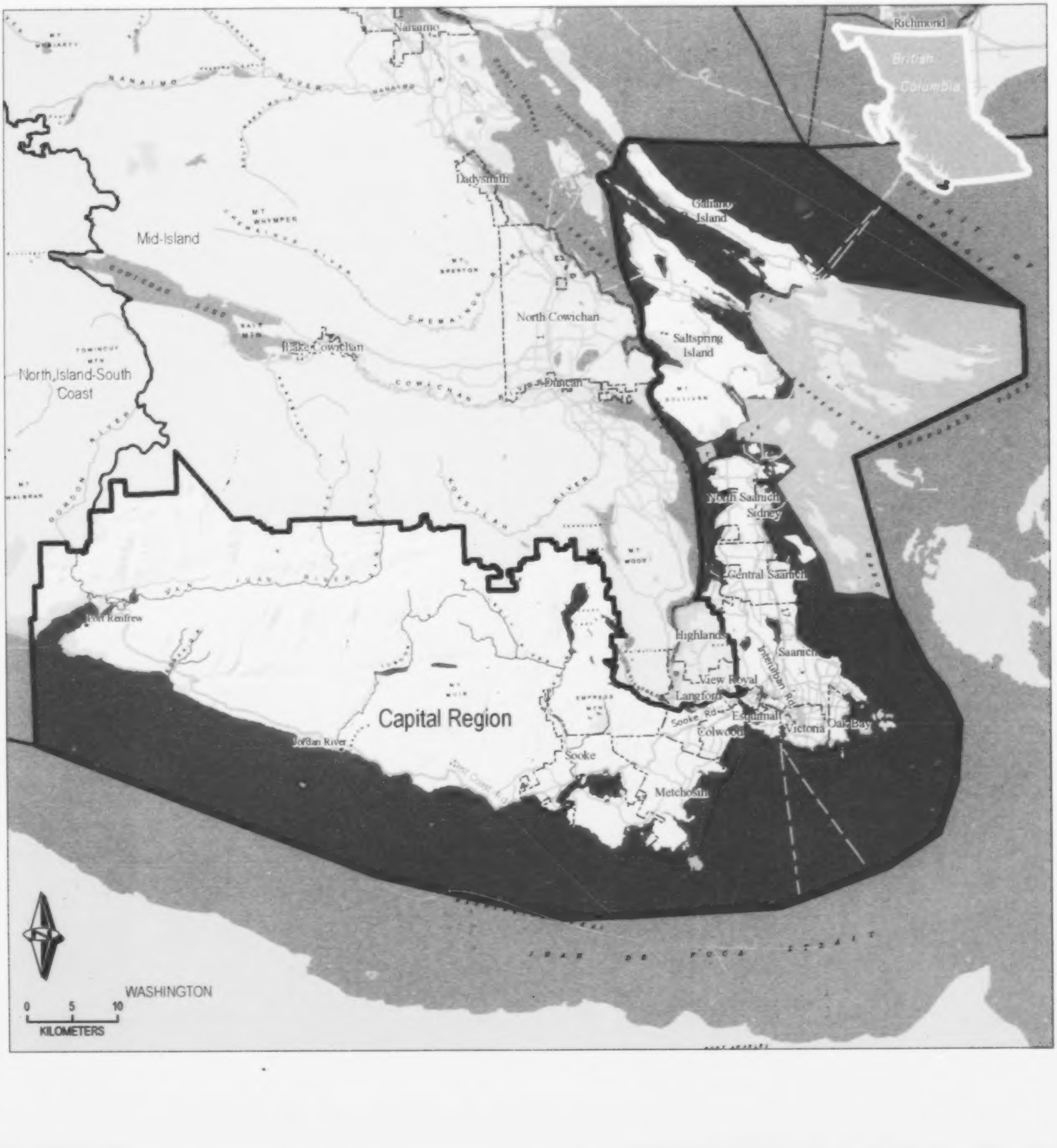
Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed North Island-South Coast BC-STV Electoral Distric


North Island-South Coast
KYUQUOT SOUND
NOOTKA SOUND
BARKLEY SOUND
JUAN DE FUCA STRAIT
Port Hardy
Port McNeill
Port Alice
Zeballos
Tahsis
Gold River
Campbell River
Powell River
Courtenay
Cumberland
Port Alberni
Tofino
Ucluelet
Qualicum Beach
Parksville
Nanaimo
Ladysmith
North Cowichan
Duncan
Lake Cowichan
Port Renfrew
0 10 20
KILOMETERS

Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Mid Island BC-STV Electoral District

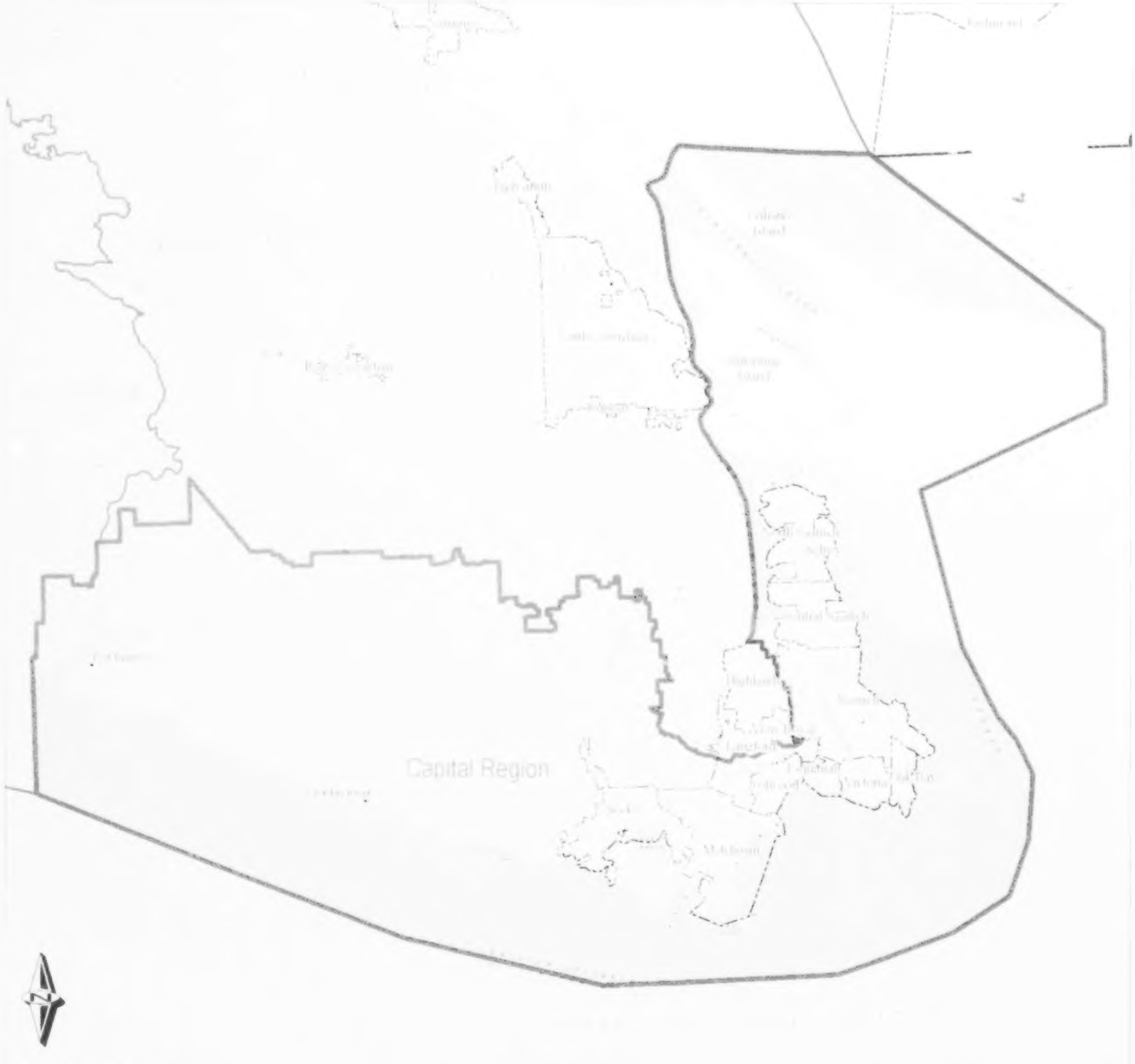

Sechelt
Gibsons
Qualicum Beach
Parksville
Port Alberni
Lantzville
Nanaimo
Richmond
Delta
Thetis Island
Ladysmith
Mid-Island
Chemainus
North Cowichan
Lake Cowichan
Duncan
North Saanich
Sidney
Central Saanich
Highlands
Saanich
View Royal
Langford
Esquimalt
Colwood
Victoria
Oak Bay
Metchosin
Sooke
Port Renfrew
0
5
10
KILOMETERS

Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Capital Region BC-STV Electoral District

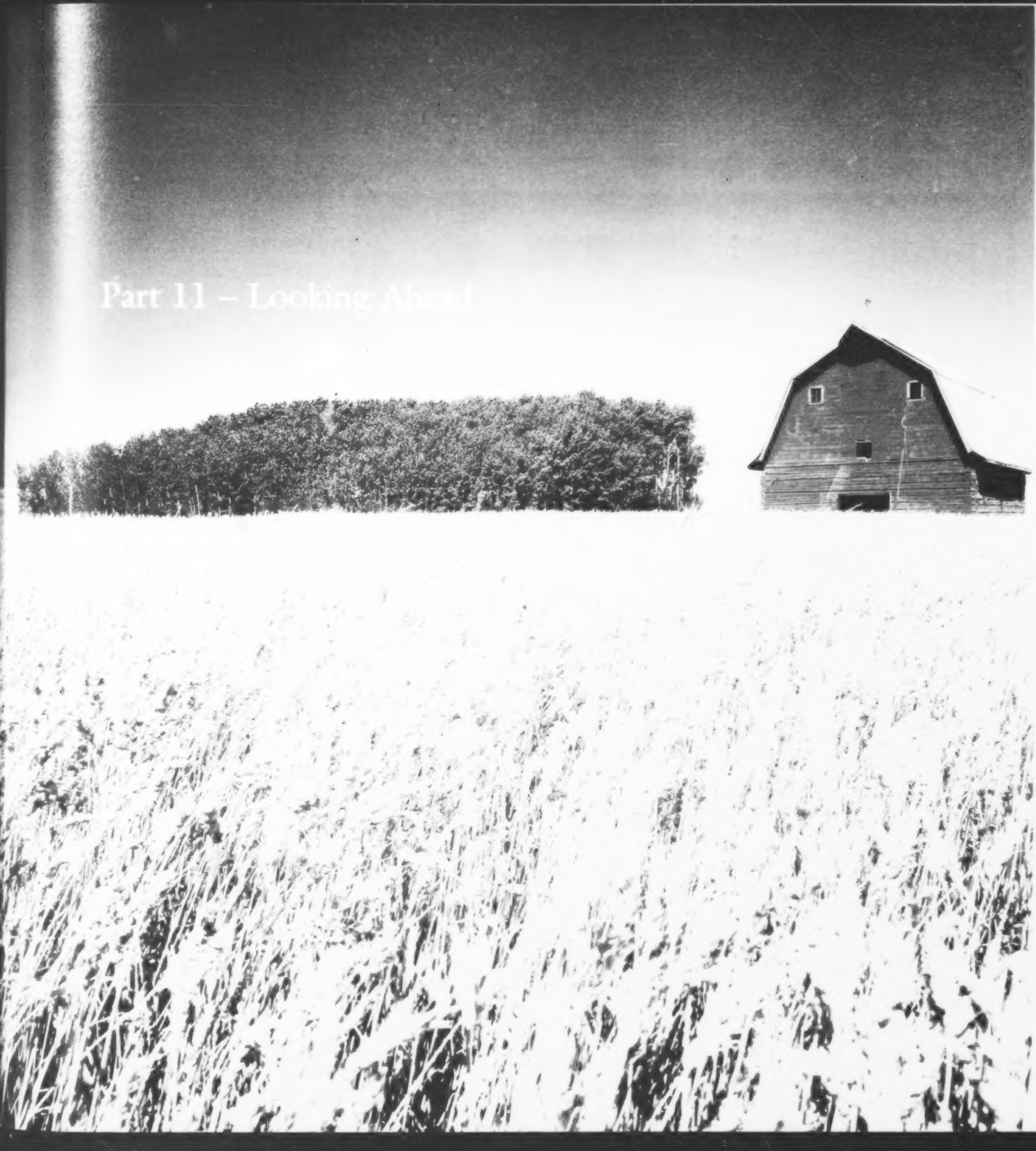

Nanaimo
Richmond
British Columbia
Ladysmith
Galiano Island
Mid-Island
North Cowichan
Saltspring Island
Lake Cowichan
North Island-South Coast
Duncan
North Saanich
Sidney
Central Saanich
Port Renfrew
Highlands
Saanich
View Royal
Langford
Sooke Rd
Esquimalt
Colwood
Victoria
Oak Bay
Capital Region
Jordan River
Sooke
Metchosin
Interurban Rd
Juan de Fuca Strait
WASHINGTON
0 5 10
KILOMETERS

Part 11 – Looking Ahead

Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Capital Region BC-STV Electoral District


Capital Region
Galiano Island
Saltspring Island
North Saanich
Sidney
Central Saanich
Highlands
Saanich
View Royal
Langford
Esquimalt
Colwood
Victoria
Oak Bay
Sooke
Metchosin
0 5 10
KILOMETERS

Part 11 – Looking Ahead



Part 11 – Looking Ahead

A. Delivery of the Commission's Report

The legislation that governs us requires that we submit this report to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly by August 15, 2007. The Speaker must promptly cause the report to be made public.

This report is also available in electronic format (DVD) from the commission office (see back page for address), and on our commission website (www.bc-ebc.ca).

B. Public Hearings

After this report has been made public, section 11 of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* requires that the commission "hold hearings at the places and times it considers appropriate to enable representations to be made by any person as to the area and boundaries of any proposed electoral district." This includes our proposed SMP and BC-STV electoral districts. We must give reasonable public notice of the time and place of our public hearings.

C. Dates and Locations of Public Hearings

Set out below is our proposed hearing schedule (see Table 51). Please note that this schedule is subject to change. Check our commission website (www.bc-ebc.ca) for the latest hearing schedule and location details.

	Location	Day	Date	Time(s)
1	Prince George	Wednesday	Sept 5	6:30 – 9:30 pm
2	Burns Lake	Thursday	Sept 6	6:30 – 9:30 pm
3	Vancouver 1	Saturday	Sept 8	1:30 – 4:30 pm
4	North Vancouver	Monday	Sept 10	6:30 – 9:30 pm
5	Abbotsford	Tuesday	Sept 11	6:30 – 9:30 pm
6	Vancouver 2	Thursday	Sept 20	6:30 – 9:30 pm
7	Fort St. John	Monday	Oct 1	6:30 – 9:30 pm
8	Burnaby	Tuesday	Oct 2	6:30 – 9:30 pm
9	Port Coquitlam	Wednesday	Oct 3	6:30 – 9:30 pm
10	Terrace	Thursday	Oct 4	6:30 – 9:30 pm
11	Surrey 1	Saturday	Oct 13	1:30 – 4:30 pm
12	Kimberley	Monday	Oct 15	6:30 – 9:30 pm
13	Castlegar	Tuesday	Oct 16	6:30 – 9:30 pm
14	Surrey 2	Thursday	Oct 18	6:30 – 9:30 pm
15	Political Parties (Vancouver)	Friday	Oct 19	1:30 – 4:30 pm
16	Williams Lake	Monday	Oct 22	6:30 – 9:30 pm
17	Kamloops	Tuesday	Oct 23	6:30 – 9:30 pm
18	Merritt	Wednesday	Oct 24	6:30 – 9:30 pm
19	Vernon	Monday	Oct 29	6:30 – 9:30 pm
20	Osoyoos	Tuesday	Oct 30	6:30 – 9:30 pm
21	Richmond	Thursday	Nov 1	6:30 – 9:30 pm
22	Powell River	Saturday	Nov 3	1:00 – 4:00 pm
23	Campbell River	Monday	Nov 5	6:30 – 9:30 pm
24	Nanaimo	Tuesday	Nov 6	6:30 – 9:30 pm
25	Victoria	Wednesday	Nov 7	6:30 – 9:30 pm
26	MLAs (Vancouver)	Tuesday	Nov 13	10 am – Noon 2:00 – 4:00 pm
27	MLAs (Victoria)	Wednesday	Nov 14	10 am – Noon 2:00 – 4:00 pm

*Dates and locations subject to change.

D. Registration for Presenters

Our hearings are open to the public. However, if you or your organization would like to make an oral presentation at one of our public hearings, you are invited to register in advance, either online (www.bc-ebc.ca) or by telephone (1-877-660-1203). After being registered, it would be helpful if presenters would provide a copy of their presentation, to assist the commissioners in their preparation for the hearings.

Presenters will be contacted prior to the hearing, to re-confirm their attendance and the approximate time for their presentation. Additional presenters will be registered at each hearing, on a first-come, first-served basis.

E. Written Submissions

You may also express your views on our *Preliminary Report* in writing:

- through our website: www.bc-ebc.ca
- by email: info@bc-ebc.ca
- by fax: 604-660-1207, or toll-free: 1-877-660-1207
- by mail:
  British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission
  PO Box 10073
  Suite 601 – 700 West Georgia Street
  Vancouver, BC V7Y 1B6

F. The Commission's Final Report

Following our public hearings, we will make any amendments we consider advisable and incorporate them in a final report, which must be submitted by February 15, 2008 to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly or, if the Legislative Assembly is not then in session, to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, who must promptly cause our final report to be made public.

Section 13(1) of the legislation provides that our final report must:

(a) if the Legislative Assembly is in session when the report is submitted, be promptly laid before the Assembly, or

(b) if the Legislative Assembly is not then in session, be laid before the Assembly within seven days after the commencement of the next ensuing session.[70]

(c) The role of the Legislative Assembly

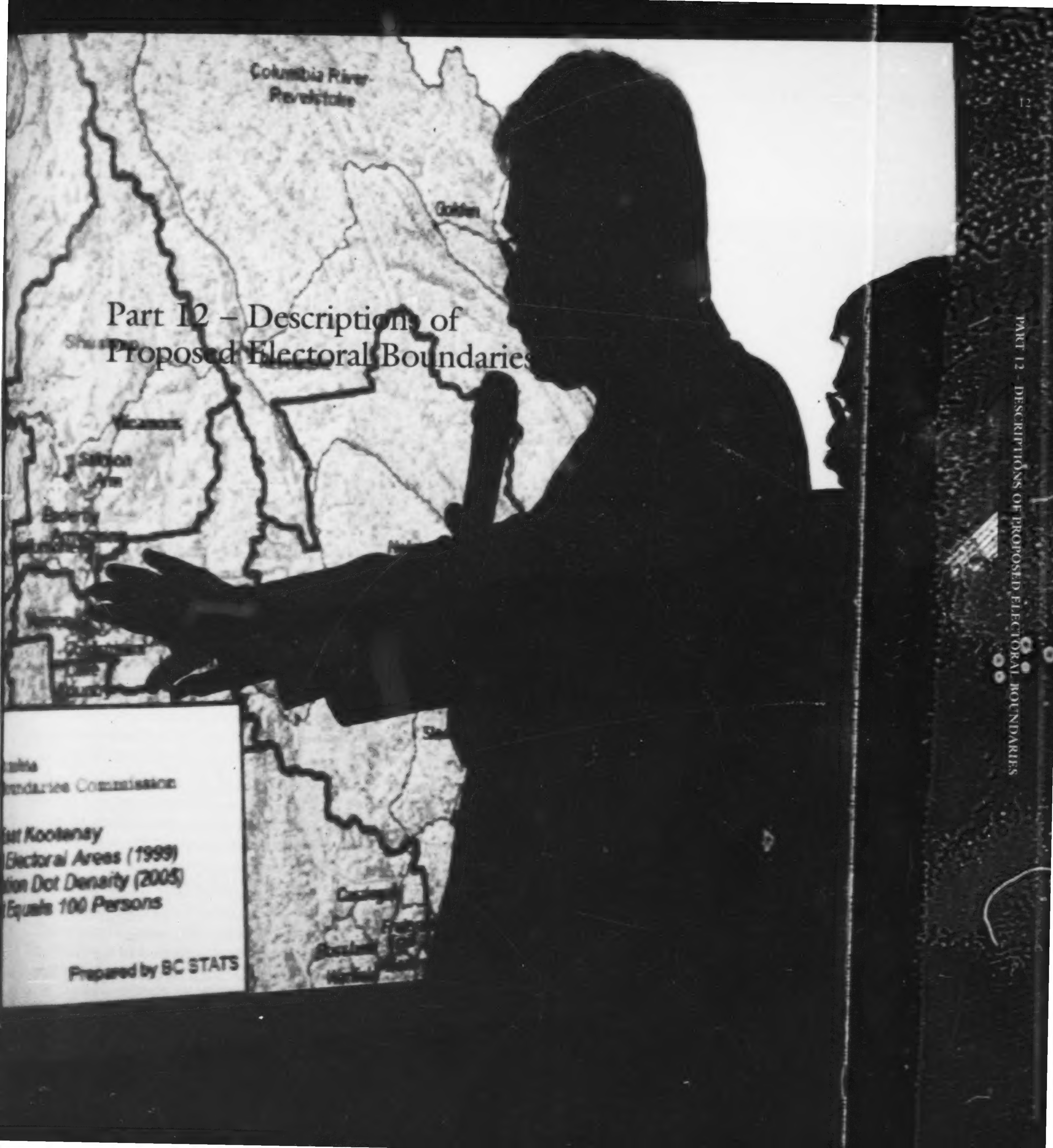
Our commission's proposed electoral boundaries are only proposals. The final decision respecting adoption of our proposals rests with the Legislative Assembly. Section 14 of the legislation states:

> If the Legislative Assembly, by resolution, approves or approves with alterations the proposals of the commission, the government must, at the same session, introduce a bill to establish new electoral districts in accordance with the resolution.

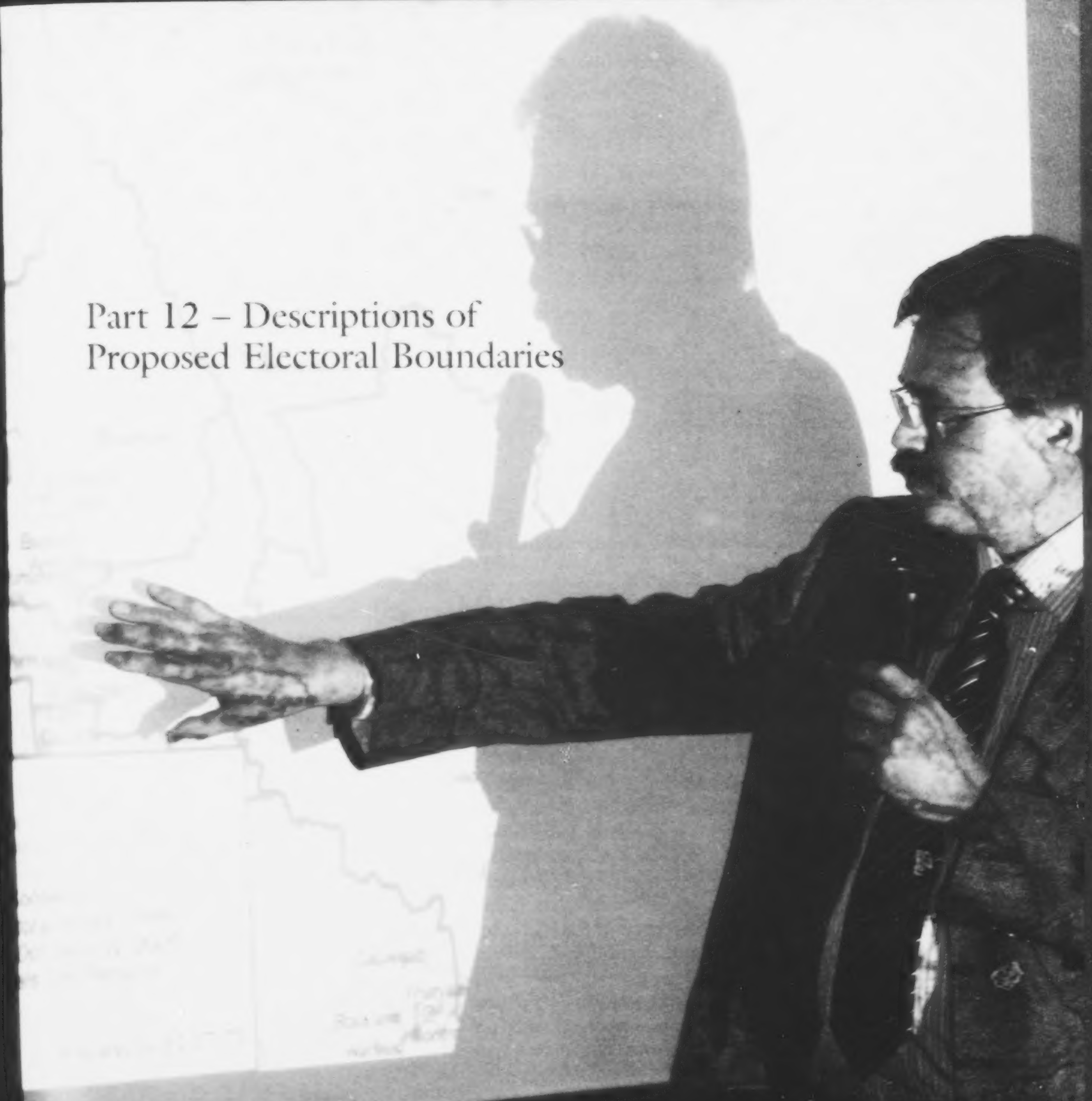
---

[70] The legislation refers to "the report" and "any amendments to the report." In this report we have used the term *Preliminary Report* to refer to "the report," and we will include "any amendments to the report" in our final report. Our final report will include everything that is contained in this *Preliminary Report*, plus any additional material that the commissioners consider necessary arising out of our formal public hearings in the fall of 2007. By incorporating everything from our *Preliminary Report* into our final report, readers of the latter will not have to refer back to the former for a full understanding of our commission's work. Similarly, it will only be necessary for our final report to be laid before the Legislative Assembly.

Part 12 – Descriptions of Proposed Electoral Boundaries


Columbia River
Revelstoke
Golden
Shuswap
Sicamous
Salmon Arm
Enderby
ndaries Commission
Kootenay
Electoral Areas (1999)
tion Dot Density (2005)
Equals 100 Persons
Prepared by BC STATS

Part 12 – Descriptions of Proposed Electoral Boundaries



Part 12 – Descriptions of Proposed Electoral Boundaries

Electoral boundaries commissions in British Columbia traditionally supplemented their written reports with printed maps of their proposed electoral districts and with detailed written descriptions of the boundaries of each proposed district.

The maps typically included street names, municipal or regional district boundaries, or highways, rivers or lakes that formed boundaries. For most people, such maps were adequate to identify the proposed electoral district in which they voted and the general outline of each district.

For greater certainty and precision, commissions also included written descriptions, which typically made reference to roads, municipal boundaries, segments of regional district boundaries, and rivers and lakes. When a proposed electoral boundary did not follow a road, waterway or administrative boundary, a commission had to resort to technical legal language, known as metes and bounds descriptions.

If a commission's proposed electoral districts are adopted by the Legislative Assembly, they are brought into force through passage of an *Electoral Distric Act*, which typically includes a written description of the boundary for each district, using a legal metes and bound description that is often much more detailed and technical than the commission's description. For example, th *Electoral Districts Act* that implemente the 1999 Wood Commission's proposals[70] fills nearly 80 pages. The metes and bounds description of the Yale-Lillooet electoral district required five pages of single-spaced type, beginning as follows:

---

[70] *Electoral Districts Act*, SBC 1999, c. 31, Schedule 2.

> The Yale–Lillooet Electoral District is all that portion of the Province of British Columbia contained within the following boundaries:
>
> - Commencing at the southwest corner of District Lot 23 (S.), Similkameen Division of Yale Land District, being a point on the southerly boundary of the Province of British Columbia;
> - thence northerly along the westerly boundary of said District Lot 23 (S) to the northwest corner thereof;
> - thence northerly in a straight line to the southeast corner of District Lot 177, Similkameen Division of Yale Land District;
> - thence northerly along the easterly boundary of said District Lot 177 to the northeast corner thereof;
> - thence northerly along the westerly boundary of District Lot 353, Similkameen Division of Yale Land District to the northwest corner thereof;
> - thence westerly along the southerly boundary of District Lot 354, Similkameen Division of Yale Land District to the southwest corner thereof;
> - thence northerly along the westerly boundaries of said District Lot 354 and District Lot 260, Similkameen Division of Yale Land District to the northwest corner thereof;
> - thence westerly along the northerly boundary of District Lot 261, Similkameen Division of Yale Land District to the southeast corner of District Lot 809 (S), Similkameen Division of Yale Land District;
> - thence northerly along the easterly boundaries of said District Lot 809 (S) and District Lot 1898, Similkameen Division of Yale Land District to the northeast corner thereof; . . . .

These metes and bounds descriptions are expensive and time-consuming to prepare, requiring the services of professional surveyors. While they offer precision, they are incomprehensible to the average person.

Our goal is to provide boundary descriptions that:

- are informative to readers (*i.e.* "what electoral district am I in?");
- give candidates, political parties and election officials sufficient detail for their purposes; and,
- meet legal requirements and that can be easily incorporated into legislation, if the Legislative Assembly adopts our proposals.

With recent advances in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) digital mapping technology, we have been able to produce maps that start with essential geographical features such as rivers and lakes, heights of land, highways, roads and railway lines, which we can then overlay with numerous political and administrative areas, including:

- current electoral districts;
- federal electoral districts;
- first nations reserves;
- municipalities;
- regional districts and electoral areas within them;
- school districts;
- local health areas;
- forest management districts; and,
- national and provincial parks.

As we developed our proposals for electoral districts, we were able to overlay our proposed boundaries on these other natural and administrative markers. Using Google Earth™ as an aid, we could even zoom in on a specific geographical area to see whether a proposed boundary would unintentionally divide a group of people, small community or new subdivision.

We have been able to incorporate much of this new GIS digital mapping technology into the DVD which accompanies this report. The DVD holds the GIS data necessary to depict a map of each electoral district, as well as a map of the whole province, with its natural features, roads, and political and administrative boundaries, to allow the electoral boundaries to be viewed in context. The DVD also holds the GIS software required to read the georeference data and to allow a viewer, by zooming in, to view the data at any display scale between 1:20,000 and 1:7,500,000.

We are satisfied that the combination of maps contained within the body of this report and the digital version of maps contained in the accompanying DVD make the traditional metes and bounds description of proposed electoral boundaries unnecessary.

In addition to the printed maps and the DVD's visual depiction of our proposed boundaries, there are approximately 100,000 coordinates of latitude and longitude which, when joined together, form the boundaries for our proposed electoral districts.

As far as we know, we are the first Canadian electoral boundaries commission to rely on GIS digital mapping technology to visually depict its proposed boundaries. Out of an abundance of caution we have provided the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly with, in addition to our printed report and DVD:

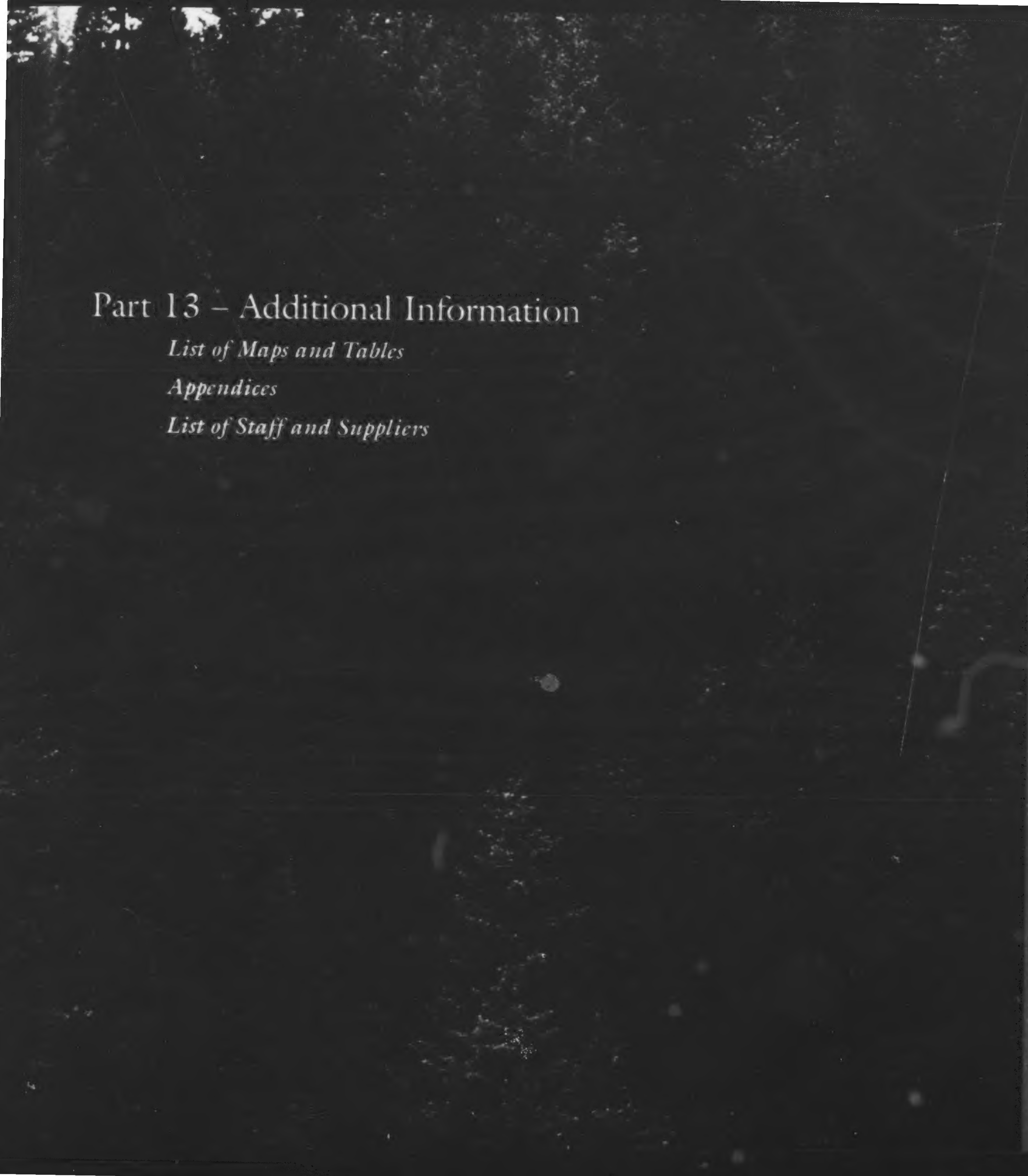
- printed sample copies of a few large maps of our proposed electoral boundaries; and,
- printed and digital copies of the coordinates of latitude and longitude that are joined to form the boundaries for the above large maps.

A complete set of maps and accompanying coordinates will be printed for all SMP and STV electoral districts.

It will, of course, be up to the Legislative Assembly to decide whether the GIS digital mapping technology we have used, and which we have incorporated into the accompanying DVD, meets necessary legal requirements and can replace the traditional metes and bounds descriptions found in the current *Electoral Districts Act*.[71]

---

[71] There is some precedent for the legal recognition of boundaries, without reliance on a metes and bounds description: see the *Park Act*, RSBC 1966, c. 344, s. 7.1.



Part 13 – Additional Information

List of Maps and Tables

Appendices

List of Staff and Suppliers

List of Historical Maps

THE NORTH

Page
1955 Government Electoral District Map 68
Angus Commission Electoral Districts 69
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 70
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 71
Fisher Commission Electoral Districts 72
1988 Government Electoral District Map 73
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 74
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 75

CARIBOO-THOMPSON

1955 Government Electoral District Map 95
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 96
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 97
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 98
1990 Government Electoral District Map 99
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 100
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 101

OKANAGAN

1955 Government Electoral District Map 114
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 115
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 116
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 117
Fisher Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 118
1990 Government Electoral District Map 119
Wood Commission Interim or Final Report Electoral Districts 120

KOOTENAYS

1955 Government Electoral District Map 133
Angus Commission Electoral Districts 134
1966 Government Electoral District Map 135
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 136
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 137
1990 Government Electoral District Map 138
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 139
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 140

FRASER VALLEY NORTH

Page
1955 Government Electoral District Map 149
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 150
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 151
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 152
Fisher Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 153
1990 Government Electoral District Map 154
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 155
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 156

FRASER VALLEY SOUTH

1955 Government Electoral District Map 157
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 158
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 159
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 160
Fisher Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 161
1990 Government Electoral District Map 162
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 163
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 164

TRI CITIES

1955 Government Electoral District Map 181
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 182
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 183
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 184
1990 Government Electoral District Map 185
Wood Commission Interim, or Final Report Electoral Districts 186

SURREY

1955 Government Electoral District Map 196
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 197
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 198
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 199
McAdam Commission Electoral Districts, or 1984 Government Electoral District Map 200
1990 Government Electoral District Map 201
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 202
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 203

RICHMOND AND DELTA

Page
1955 Government Electoral District Map 216
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 217
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 218
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 219
1990 Government Electoral District Map 220
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 221

BURNABY AND NEW WESTMINSTER

1955 Government Electoral District Map 231
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 232
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 233
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 234
1990 Government Electoral District Map 235
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 236
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 237

VANCOUVER

1955 Government Electoral District Map 247
Angus Commission Electoral Districts 248
1966 Government Electoral District Map 249
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 250
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 251
Fisher Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 252
1990 Government Electoral District Map 253
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 254
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 255

NORTH SHORE

1955 Government Electoral District Map 273
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map 274
Norris Commission Electoral Districts 275
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map 276
1990 Government Electoral District Map 277
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts 278
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts 279

VANCOUVER ISLAND AND SOUTH COAST

	Page
1955 Government Electoral District Map	288
Angus Commission Electoral Districts, or 1966 Government Electoral District Map	289
Norris Commission Electoral Districts	291
Eckardt Commission Electoral Districts, or 1978 Government Electoral District Map	292
Fisher Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts	293
1990 Government Electoral District Map	294
Wood Commission Interim Report Electoral Districts	295
Wood Commission Final Report Electoral Districts	296

List of Current and Proposed SMP Electoral District Maps*

Page

Current Electoral Districts in our Regional Groupings 56

THE NORTH

Current Electoral Districts 86
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 87
North Coast 88
Peace River 89
Northland 90
Prince George 91
Fraser–Fort George 92
Skeena-Stikine 93
Bulkley-Nechako 94

CARIBOO-THOMPSON

Current Electoral Districts 108
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 109
Kamloops–North Thompson 110
Kamloops–South Thompson 111
Cariboo-Chilcotin 112
Cariboo-Fraser 113

OKANAGAN

Current Electoral Districts 124
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 125
Shuswap 126
Vernon-Monashee 127
Kelowna–Lake Country 128
Kelowna-Mission 129
Kelowna-Westside 130
Penticton 131
Boundary-Similkameen 132

---

* **Pink areas denote Indian Reserves; green areas denote parks.**

COLUMBIA-KOOTENAY

Page

Current Electoral Districts 144
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 145
Kootenay West 146
Kootenay East 147
Kootenay South 148

FRASER VALLEY

Current Electoral Districts 170
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 171
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows 172
Maple Ridge–Mission 173
Mission-Clayburn 174
Langley West 175
Langley East 176
Abbotsford-Aldergrove 177
Abbotsford Centre 178
Abbotsford-Chilliwack 179
Chilliwack-Hope 180

TRI-CITIES

Current Electoral Districts 190
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 191
Port Moody–Coquitlam 192
Port Coquitlam 193
Coquitlam-Maillardville 194
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain 195

SURREY

Current Electoral Districts 206
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 207
Surrey-Whalley 208
Surrey-Guildford 209
Surrey–Green Timbers 210
Surrey-Fleetwood 211
Surrey-Newton 212
Surrey-Panorama 213
Surrey-Cloverdale 214
Surrey–White Rock 215

RICHMOND AND DELTA

Page
Current Electoral Districts 224
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 225
Richmond Centre 226
Richmond-Steveston 227
Richmond East 228
Delta South 229
Delta North 230

BURNABY AND NEW WESTMINSTER

Current Electoral Districts 240
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 241
New Westminster 242
Burnaby-Brentwood 243
Burnaby-Lougheed 244
Burnaby-Willingdon 245
Burnaby-Edmonds 246

VANCOUVER

Current Electoral Districts 260
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 261
Vancouver–West End 262
Vancouver–False Creek 263
Vancouver-Hastings 264
Vancouver-Kingsway 265
Vancouver-Fraserview 266
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant 267
Vancouver-Kensington 268
Vancouver-Fairview 269
Vancouver-Langara 270
Vancouver–Point Grey 271
Vancouver-Quilchena 272

NORTH SHORE

Current Electoral Districts 282
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 283
North Vancouver–Lonsdale 284
North Vancouver–Seymour 285
West Vancouver–Capilano 286

NORTH SHORE (con't)

Page

West Vancouver–Sea to Sky 287

VANCOUVER ISLAND AND SOUTH COAST

Capital Region Municipalities 298
Current Electoral Districts 302
Regional Map of Proposed Electoral Districts 303
Saanich West 304
Saanich East 305
Saanich North and the Islands 306
Victoria–Oak Bay 307
Victoria-Esquimalt 308
Juan de Fuca 309
Cowichan-Goldstream 310
Nanaimo–North Cowichan 311
Nanaimo 312
Parksville-Qualicum 313
North Island 314
Central Island 315
Comox Valley 316
Powell River–Sunshine Coast 317

List of Proposed BC-STV Electoral District Maps*

	Page
Northeast	333
Northwest	334
North Central	335
Cariboo-Thompson	336
Okanagan-Shuswap	337
Okanagan-Boundary	338
Columbia-Kootenay	339
Fraser Valley East	340
Fraser Valley West	341
Tri-Cities	342
Surrey North	343
Surrey South	344
Richmond-Delta	345
Burnaby–New Westminster	346
Vancouver East	347
Vancouver West	348
The North Shore	349
North Island–South Coast	350
Mid-Island	351
Capital Region	352

*** Pink areas denote Indian reserves; green areas denote parks.**

List of Tables

Page

Table 1: Frequency of "Exceptional" Deviations Across Canada 45

Table 2: Deviation Limits Across Canada 46

Table 3: Regional Groupings 53

Table 4: Number of Constituents Per MLA in B.C. Since 1871 59

Table 5: Number of Constituents Per MLA Across Canada 61

Table 6: Current SMP Electoral Districts in The North 76

Table 7: Current SMP Electoral Districts in The North – Deviations with 79 and 85 Electoral Districts 84

Table 8: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in The North 84

Table 9: Current SMP Electoral Districts in Cariboo-Thompson 102

Table 10: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Cariboo-Thompson 106

Table 11: Current SMP Electoral Districts in The Okanagan 121

Table 12: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in The Okanagan 123

Table 13: Current SMP Electoral Districts in Columbia-Kootenay 141

Table 14: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Columbia-Kootenay 142

Table 15: Current SMP Electoral Districts in The Fraser Valley 165

Table 16: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in The Fraser Valley 168

Page

Table 17: Current SMP Electoral Districts in The Tri-Cities 188

Table 18: Proposed Electoral Districts in the Tri-Cities Region 189

Table 19: Current SMP Electoral Districts in Surrey 204

Table 20: Proposed Electoral Districts in Surrey 205

Table 21: Current SMP Electoral Districts in Richmond and Delta 222

Table 22: Proposed Electoral Districts in Richmond and Delta 223

Table 23: Current SMP Electoral Districts in Burnaby and New Westminster 238

Table 24: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Burnaby and New Westminster 239

Table 25: Current SMP Electoral Districts in Vancouver 256

Table 26: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Vancouver 258

Table 27: Current SMP Electoral Districts in The North Shore 280

Table 28: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in The North Shore 281

Table 29: Current SMP Electoral Districts on Vancouver Island–Sunshine Coast 297

Table 30: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts on Vancouver Island–Sunshine Coast 301

Table 31: Northeast BC-STV Electoral District 326

Table 32: Northwest BC-STV Electoral District 326

Table 33: North Central BC-STV Electoral District 326

Table 34: Cariboo-Thompson BC-STV Electoral District 327

Table 35: Okanagan-Shuswap BC-STV Electoral District 327

	Page
Table 36: Okanagan-Boundary BC-STV Electoral District	327
Table 37: Columbia-Kootenay BC-STV Electoral District	328
Table 38: Fraser Valley East BC-STV Electoral District	328
Table 39: Fraser Valley West BC-STV Electoral District	328
Table 40: Tri-Cities BC-STV Electoral District	329
Table 41: Surrey North BC-STV Electoral District	329
Table 42: Surrey South BC-STV Electoral District	329
Table 43: Richmond-Delta BC-STV Electoral District	330
Table 44: Burnaby–New Westminster BC-STV Electoral District	330
Table 45: Vancouver East BC-STV Electoral District	330
Table 46: Vancouver West BC-STV Electoral District	331
Table 47: North Shore BC-STV Electoral District	331
Table 48: North Island–South Coast BC-STV Electoral District	331
Table 49: Mid-Island BC-STV Electoral District	332
Table 50: Capital Region BC-STV Electoral District	332
Table 51: Proposed Public Hearing Schedule	355

List of Appendices

Page

A. *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* 376

B. *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005* 379

C. Court decisions interpreting the right to vote 380

D. A description of the proposed BC-STV electoral system 385

E. Proposed SMP electoral districts – sorted regionally 388

F. Proposed SMP electoral districts – sorted alphabetically 392

G. Proposed SMP electoral districts – sorted by ascending 2006 population 395

H. Proposed BC-STV electoral districts – sorted alphabetically 398

I. Proposed BC-STV electoral districts – sorted by ascending 2006 population 399

J. Public consultation sessions 2006 400

K. Written submissions as of May 31, 2007 407

L. Current electoral districts – sorted regionally 410

M. Current electoral districts – sorted alphabetically 414

N. Current electoral districts – sorted by ascending 2006 population 417

O. 1991–2013 census counts and projections – proposed SMP electoral districts – sorted regionally 420

P. 1991–2013 census counts and projections – proposed SMP electoral districts – sorted alphabetically 424

Page

Q. 1991–2013 census counts and projections – proposed BC-STV electoral districts – sorted by ascending 2006 population 427

R. 1991–2013 census counts and projections – proposed BC-STV electoral districts – sorted alphabetically 428

S. British Columbia regional districts, municipalities and census subdivisions – 2006 population 429

T. British Columbia municipal census populations – 2006 - 1921 – sorted alphabetically 448

Appendix A

Electoral Boundaries Commission Act

[R.S.B.C. 1996] CHAPTER 107
As amended by *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005*, S.B.C. 2005, c. 30

Contents

Section

1 Definition
2 Electoral Boundaries Commission
3 Function of commission
4 Remuneration
5 Time of appointment of commission
6 Powers of commission
7 Employees
8 Appropriation
9 Determining boundaries
10 Report to Speaker
11 Hearings
12 Amendment of report
13 Report to Legislative Assembly
14 New electoral districts to be introduced by Bill
15 Power to establish electoral districts by regulation

Definition

1 In this Act, **"commission"** means the Electoral Boundaries Commission appointed under section 2.

Electoral Boundaries Commission

2 (1) The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council must, as required by this Act, appoint an Electoral Boundaries Commission consisting of

(a) a judge or a retired judge of the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal who is nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council,

(b) a person who is not a member of the Legislative Assembly or an employee of the government and who is nominated by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, after consultation with the Premier and the Leader of the Official Opposition, and

(c) the chief electoral officer appointed under the *Election Act*.

(2) The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council must appoint one member of the commission as chair.

Function of commission

3 (1) The function of the commission is to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the area, boundaries and names of the electoral districts of British Columbia.

(2) If the commission in carrying out its functions under subsection (1) considers that the number of electoral districts in British Columbia should be increased, it may make proposals to the Legislative Assembly to increase the number of electoral districts up to a maximum of 85.

Remuneration

4 (1) The commission member who is a retired judge appointed under section 2 (1) (a) and the commission member who is appointed under section 2 (1) (b) may be paid remuneration for his or her services on the commission in an amount prescribed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

(2) The commission members, while absent from their ordinary place of residence and in the course of their duties as commission members, must be paid their reasonable travelling and living expenses at the rates the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may prescribe.

Time of appointment of commission

5 (1) The next commission must be appointed no later than November 30, 2005.

(2) A new commission must be appointed no later than one year after the general voting day for every second general election following the appointment under subsection (1).

Powers of commission

6 The commission and each member of it has, for the purposes of this *Act*, all of the powers conferred on commissioners under Part 2 of the *Inquiry Act*.

Employees

7 The commission may
(a) employ or retain technical and other advisors and employees that it considers necessary, including a person to act as secretary to the commission, and
(b) subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, determine
(i) their conditions of employment, and
(ii) the remuneration and reimbursement for expenses to which they are entitled.

Appropriation

8 Money required to meet the remuneration and expenses of commission members and of the persons referred to in section 7 may be paid out of the consolidated revenue fund.

Determining boundaries

9 (1) In determining the area to be included in and in fixing the boundaries of proposed electoral districts, the commission must be governed by the following principles:
(a) that the principle of representation by population be achieved, recognizing the imperatives imposed by geographical and demographic realities, the legacy of our history and the need to balance the community interests of the people of British Columbia;
(b) to achieve that principle, the commission be permitted to deviate from a common statistical Provincial electoral quota by no more than 25 percent, plus or minus;
(c) the commission be permitted to exceed the 25 percent deviation principle where it considers that very special circumstances exist.
(2) For the purpose of making proposals under section 3 (2), the commission must take into account the following:
(a) geographic and demographic considerations, including the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia and the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia;
(b) the availability of means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

Report to Speaker

10 (1) The commission, after considering any representations made to it, and within 12 months of the date on which the commission is appointed, must submit to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly a report, which must delineate the number, which must not be less than 79 nor more than 85, and the names, areas and boundaries of the proposed electoral districts.
(2) On receipt of the report under subsection (1), the Speaker must promptly cause it to be made public and to be published in the Gazette.
(3) If the office of Speaker is vacant, the report must be submitted to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly who must comply with subsection (2).

Hearings

11 (1) The commission
(a) may before its report is submitted to the Speaker or to the Clerk under section 10, and
(b) must after its report has been made public,
hold hearings at the places and times it considers appropriate to enable representations to be made by any person as to the area and boundaries of any proposed electoral district.
(2) The commission must give reasonable public notice of the time and place and purpose of any public hearings to be held by it.

Amendment of report

12 (1) The commission may, after considering any further representations made to it, and within 6 months of the date it submits a report under section 10, submit to the Speaker any amendments to the report it considers advisable.
(2) The commission must give reasonable public notice of the time and place of any public hearings to be held by it.
(3) After the commission has heard from all other persons, it must give all

current members of the Legislative Assembly an opportunity to make submissions to it.

(4) The amendments must be made public and published in the same manner as the report under section 10.

(5) If the office of Speaker is vacant, the amended report must be submitted to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, who must comply with subsection (4).

Report to Legislative Assembly

13 (1) The report of the commission, together with any amendments to it, must,

(a) if the Legislative Assembly is in session when the report is submitted, be promptly laid before the Assembly, or

(b) if the Legislative Assembly is not then in session, be laid before the Assembly within 7 days after the commencement of the next ensuing session.

(2) If the report and amendments are completed when the Legislative Assembly is not in session, they must be delivered to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

New electoral districts to be introduced by Bill

14 If the Legislative Assembly, by resolution, approves or approves with alterations the proposals of the commission, the government must, at the same session, introduce a Bill to establish new electoral districts in accordance with the resolution.

Power to establish electoral districts by regulation

15 (1) If the Legislative Assembly is not in session, the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may, by regulation, establish the names and the areas and boundaries of the electoral districts from which the members of the Legislative Assembly are elected.

(2) The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council must not enact a regulation under subsection (1) unless the Select Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly on Labour, Justice and Intergovernmental Relations has made a unanimous report to the Legislative Assembly recommending the names and specifying the areas and boundaries of the electoral districts.

(3) A report under subsection (2) must set out, with precision and clarity, the recommended names, areas and boundaries of the proposed electoral districts and the regulation under subsection (1) must be prepared and enacted accordingly.

(4) A regulation under subsection (1) that does not comply with subsection (2) has no effect.

(5) To assist the committee in preparing its report, the chief electoral officer and any public officers required by the chief electoral officer must, on the request of the chair of the committee, assist the committee in the manner requested by the chair.

(6) A report under subsection (2) is deemed to be made to the Legislative Assembly if it is submitted to the Clerk of the Assembly.

(7) The government must, at the next ensuing session of the Legislative Assembly after the enactment of a regulation under subsection (1), introduce a Bill to establish the boundaries of the electoral districts, but only in accordance with the regulation under subsection (1).

(8) The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council must not, before the Bill referred to in subsection (7) is enacted, amend or repeal a regulation under subsection (1), and any regulation that purports to do so has no effect.

(9) The electoral boundaries established under or in accordance with this section remain in effect until they are adjusted or changed under the other provisions of this *Act*.

Copyright © Queen's Printer,
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Appendix B

Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005 S.B.C. 2005, c. 30

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

[Sections 1–3, which amended the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* (see Appendix A), have been omitted.]

Transitional – Commission responsibilities in relation to electoral reform

4 (1) In this section, **"single transferable vote system"** means the electoral system recommended by the British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform in its final report, issued December 10, 2004, and in its technical report, issued December 20, 2004.

(2) The commission appointed under section 5 (1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* must, in addition to responsibilities assigned under that *Act*, make proposals to the Legislative Assembly, based on the single transferable vote system, as to

(a) the areas, boundaries and names of the electoral districts under that system, and

(b) the number of members of the Legislative Assembly for each of those electoral districts.

(3) The report of the commission under section 10 of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* must

(a) as an exception to subsection (1) of that section, be submitted no later than August 15, 2007, and

(b) include the proposals under subsection (2) of this section.

(4) Sections 11 to 15 of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* apply in relation to the proposals included in the report under subsection (3) (b) of this section.

(5) In carrying out its responsibilities under subsection (2),

(a) the commission must, in its proposals included under subsection (3) (b), propose the same number of members of the Legislative Assembly as it proposes under section 10 of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, and

(b) if, by amendment under section 12 of that *Act*, it changes the number of members from the number proposed under section 10 of that *Act*, the commission must make the same change in relation to its proposals under this section regarding the single transferable vote system.

Commencement

5.This *Act* comes into force on the date of Royal Assent.

Copyright © 2005: Queen's Printer, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Appendix C

Court Decisions Interpreting the Right to Vote

In Part 4 of this report, we discussed the leading Supreme Court of Canada decisions that have interpreted the right to vote guaranteed by section 3 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms.*

Several provincial trial and appellate courts have been faced with legal challenges to electoral boundaries legislation, or to boundaries drawn by commissions, and so have been called upon to apply the Supreme Court of Canada's general interpretation of s. 3. We summarize these decisions in this appendix, as they provide some insight into how the courts have applied the Supreme Court of Canada's interpretation of the right to vote to specific fact situations.

Alberta

In the ***1991 Alberta Reference***,[72] the provincial legislation set out very strict redistribution rules. For example, there must be 83 electoral districts, consisting of 43 single municipality and 40 multi-municipality districts. The commission was required to consider geography, comprehensibility, the number of municipalities involved, community interests, including those of aboriginal communities, population density and *Charter* rights. The *Act* permitted 25 percent deviation from the provincial average. It also allowed 50 percent deviation for 5 percent of the districts because of their sparse population, if they met criteria such as size, number of kilometres of highways, distance from Edmonton and maximum town population of 4,000.

The Alberta Court of Appeal upheld the legislation, in spite of the "bewildering array" of rules. The 25 percent deviation did not constitute an undue intrusion upon voter parity, and the 50 percent deviation for 5 percent of the electoral districts was reasonable, having regard to sparsely populated areas and long distances to travel. The Court accepted that rural communities are a "community interest," and their existence warrants departure from voter parity:

> Boundaries should respect the existence of that community interest. But that interest does not, of itself, justify deviations. The right of effective representation for rural voters does not mean they are always and everywhere to have divisions with lower populations.

The Court concluded with this comment:

> The real issue may be not about adequate representation of the less populated areas but under-representation of more populated areas. No argument for effective representation of one group legitimizes under-representation of another group. Arguments about the minimal size for ridings in lightly populated areas inevitably lead to the question why the legislature cannot accommodate both those requests and the demand for parity by enlarging the legislature. No doubt a legislature can be too large. But it also can be too small. And, in light of the rule in the ***Saskatchewan Reference*** case, the overall size of the legislature will, in the future, inevitably come under *Charter* scrutiny.

The electoral boundaries commission legislation that the Court had upheld in 1991 led to the appointment of a commission in 1992. The commission initially favoured "hybrid" districts that joined urban and rural areas, but subsequently backed away from that position because of strong public opposition. The five commissioners filed five separate final reports. A select committee of the legislature proposed an entirely new scheme that did away with hybrid districts. The legislature adopted the select committee's recommendations, and the 1993 election was conducted under those new boundaries. In 1994 the government asked the Alberta Court of Appeal to rule on the constitutionality of the 1993 boundaries (the ***1994 Alberta Reference***.)[73] The Alberta Civil Liberties Association intervened in the reference, contending that the under-representation of voters in inner city areas of Calgary and Edmonton constituted systemic discrimination against members of certain disadvantaged minority groups, namely the disabled, women, single parents, the elderly, immigrants, the poor and the unemployed who inhabited these areas in disproportionate numbers.

---

[72] ***Reference re Electoral Boundaries Commission Act (Alta.)*** (1991), 86 D.L.R. (4th) 447 (Alta. C.A.).

The Alberta Court of Appeal ruled that there was inadequate information before the Court for it to answer the constitutional question. However, it emphasized that:

- there is no permissible variation if there is no justification,
- the Court had not, in the ***1991 Alberta Reference***, blessed a general discrepancy between rural and urban divisions. Nor had it accepted the suggestion that areas in the province with a below-average density of population might expect, without more, to have electoral divisions with below-average populations: "We did accept that the principles of fair representation might well lead to deviation. But we insisted that these must be established on a division-by-division basis,"
- the fact that a majority of Albertans did not like hybrid districts does not justify a *Charter* violation.

Prince Edward Island

The *Elections Act* created 16 two-member electoral districts apportioned by county, as follows: Prince County (5), Queens County (6), and Kings County (5). In ***MacKinnon,***[74] a voter challenged the legislation under section 3 of the *Charter*. The evidence before the Court showed variances from plus 115 percent to minus 63 percent, far larger than in any other Canadian jurisdiction. In striking down the scheme, the Court noted that no other significant government services were delivered on a county basis. Not convinced that counties were, or ever had been, permanent political communities, the Court concluded that the legislative requirement for approximately equal county representation was arbitrary. There was no evidence that it was more difficult to represent rural than urban districts and, consequently, the goal of effective representation did not justify any appreciably lower voter population in rural areas based on a perceived difficulty to represent rural ridings.

Finding that the existing electoral distribution provided inadequate representation to a large percentage of the voters because of the significant variances in population in the electoral districts, the P.E.I. Supreme Court, Trial Division, concluded that MacKinnon's s. 3 rights had been infringed. The Court was then required to consider whether these infringements were "justified" under s. 1 of the *Charter*, which states:

> The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* guarantees the rights and freedoms set out in it subject only to such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.[75]

The Court was satisfied that the government's objectives of ensuring an appropriate urban/rural and regional balance were "pressing and substantial," but was not satisfied that the means adopted in the legislation were proportional, because the dilution of voting power was unduly great – the map did not affect the rights of urban voters as little as possible. Echoing the words of the Alberta Court of Appeal, the Court concluded by stating:

---

[73] ***Reference re Electoral Divisions Statutes Amendment Act, 1993 (Alta.)*** (1994), 119 D.L.R. (4th) 1 (Alta. C.A.)

[74] ***MacKinnon v. Prince Edward Island*** (1993), 101 D.L.R. (4th) 362 (P.E.I.S.C., T.D.)

[75] **In *R. v. Oakes*** (1986), 26 D.L.R. (4th) 200 (S.C.C.); the Court ruled that when the government seeks to justify a legislative measure that infringes *a Charter* right, it must show that:

- The objective relates to concerns that are pressing and substantial in a free and democratic society, and
- The means chosen must be proportional, which has three components:
  - The measures adopted must be rationally connected to the objective, and must be carefully designed to achieve the objective in question,
  - The means should impair as little as possible the right or freedom in question,
  - There must be proportionality between the effects of the measures which are responsible for limiting the *Charter* right or freedom and the objective which has been identified as of sufficient importance.

> In terms of effective representation, the real issue in this province may not be whether adequate representation is provided to the less populated areas, but rather whether the more populated areas are underrepresented.

The P.E.I. government subsequently appointed an electoral boundaries commission, which recommended that there should be 30 single-member electoral districts allocated by county (Kings (5), Queens (15) and Prince (10)), with a deviation maximum of plus or minus 15 percent. However, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly then prepared an electoral map with only 27 districts, still allocated by county. The Legislative Assembly approved the commission's recommendations, except that there would be only 27 electoral districts and, in the future, boundary drawing would have to comply with a plus or minus 25 percent deviation rule. In ***Charlottetown***, the city challenged the variances in voter population and the distribution of constituencies, under sesction 3 of the *Charter*. The P.E.I. Supreme Court, Trial Division, dismissed the application, and the Appeal Division dismissed the appeal.

The Trial Division[76] found that district deviations ranged from plus 21.1 percent to minus 19.9 percent. Similarly, rural areas of the province were over-represented (59 percent of seats with only 54 percent of voters), even though it had not been established that rural residents tended to rely more heavily on their MLAs. Nevertheless, the Court found that the scheme was not demonstrably unjustified, palpably wrong or manifestly unreasonable, and did not intervene.

On appeal, the Appeal Division[77] made a preliminary ruling on whether the City of Charlottetown had the legal status to bring the appeal, since it was a corporation and the *Charter*, section 3 right applies only to "citizens." The Court ruled that the city had the necessary legal status, and stated:

> 8 In this context some deviance from voter equality may be tolerated for the greater good of all. On the other hand, unjustly diminishing the voting rights of any group of individuals, such as urban voters, would obviously have an adverse impact on effective representation for their community as a whole and thus would weaken the democratic process that s. 3, as defined by the Supreme Court, was meant to protect and support.

On the appeal proper,[78] a majority of the Appeal Division was satisfied that the variances between districts were well within the tolerances accepted by the Supreme Court of Canada in the ***Saskatchewan Reference*** case, and represented a very marked reduction in the over-representation of rural districts and under-representation of urban districts that was before the Court in ***MacKinnon***. The Court stated:

> 37 Madam Justice McLachlin points out in the Dixon case that relative equality of voting power is the dominant principle underlying our system of representative democracy and is fundamental to the right to vote enshrined in section 3 of the Charter. She does not define relative equality of voting power, but she does state that "significant discrepancies" in the numbers of people represented by the members of the Legislature and members being "grossly overburdened" with constituents, as compared with another member, is not consistent with good government and may undermine the legitimacy of our system of government.

---

[76] ***Charlottetown (City) v. Prince Edward Island*** (1996), 142 D.L.R. (4th) 343 (P.E.I.S.C., T.D.).

[77] ***Charlottetown (City) v. Prince Edward Island*** (1998), 167 D.L.R. (4th) 268 (P.E.I.S.C., A.D.).

[78] ***Charlottetown (City) v. Prince Edward Island*** (1998), 168 D.L.R. (4th) 79 (P.E.I.S.C., A.D.).

In upholding the scheme, the Court concluded that reasonable people applying the appropriate principles could have established the electoral boundaries under review.

Northwest Territories

After the creation of Nunavut, 14 electoral districts were left in the remaining N.W.T. territory. The electoral boundaries commission recommended that the number of districts be increased to 16 by adding two districts to Yellowknife, in recognition of the fact that it had 44 percent of the territorial population, but only 29 percent of the electoral districts (the addition of two seats would give Yellowknife 38 percent of the electoral districts). The Legislative Assembly declined to add these two seats, and several individuals (including the Mayor of Yellowknife) and a voluntary organization (Friends of Democracy) sought a declaration that the legislation establishing the 14 districts violated their rights under section 3 of the *Charter*. The N.W.T. Supreme Court granted the declaration, and an appeal to the Court of Appeal was dismissed.

The Supreme Court[79] ruled that there had been an undue dilution of the right to vote, without due justification, in the under-represented districts. The Court stated:

> 18 Considering the factors of geography, community history and interests, language differences, difficulties in communication with remote communities and minority representation, not to mention the normal difficulties and expenses of travel between the seat of government in Yellowknife and the various communities outside Yellowknife, I am satisfied that there probably is justification within the ambit of section 3 of the *Charter* for the present over-representation of the electoral districts whose percentage variations in population are below the average. On the other hand, I am unable to find similar justification for the gross under–representation of those other districts where the variations are markedly (25 percent or more) above the average. This gross under–representation must constitute a clear violation of section 3 of the *Charter* in the absence of due justification.

The N.W.T. government did not appeal, but several aboriginal interveners did. The N.W.T. Court of Appeal refused leave to appeal,[80] observing that based on the evidence before the trial judge, he had come to the proper decision, and that an appeal would have little chance of success.

New Brunswick

The federal electoral boundaries commission for New Brunswick proposed transferring two parishes from one electoral district to another. Residents of the parishes objected, arguing that as Acadians they had a community of interest, which would be harmed if they were transferred into an anglophone district. The commission rejected the argument, because not transferring the two parishes would have resulted in variances ranging from plus 14 percent to minus 21 percent, and the commission was determined to stay within plus or minus 10 percent, even though the legislation permitted variations up to plus or minus 25 percent. The Proclamation Order implemented the commission's recommendation that the two parishes be transferred, and the applicants applied to the Federal Court for judicial review.

The Court made two rulings.[81] First, there was no violation of section 3 of the *Charter*. Finding a balance between the competing interests of voter parity and community interest is not an exact science, and the courts will respect the choices made by commissions if their decisions are defensible. Here, the commission concluded that the plus 14/minus 21 percent variances were too large and, applying the "reasonable persons" standard for judicial review, the Court should not intervene.

---

[79] ***Friends of Democracy v. Northwest Territories*** (1999), 171 D.L.R. (4th) 551 (N.W.T.S.C.).

[80] ***Friends of Democracy v. Northwest Territories*** *(Attorney General)* (1999), 176 D.L.R. (4th) 661 (N.W.T.C.A.).

[81] ***Raiche v. Canada (Attorney General),*** [2004] F.C.J. No. 839 (F.C., T.D.).

Second, the commission did violate the federal *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*, and its decision should be set aside. Section 15(2) of the *Act* authorized variances of up to plus or minus 25 percent but, by failing to consider that range (and refusing to exceed plus or minus 10 percent), the commission erred. It should have considered the full plus or minus 25 percent range, in order to accommodate the Acadian community of interest.

Appendix D

A Description of the Proposed BC-STV Electoral System

BC's current electoral system

British Columbia is currently divided into 79 single–member electoral districts, for electing MLAs to the provincial Legislative Assembly. In an election, the candidate who receives the most votes wins and the political party that elects the most candidates forms the government. For most of our history, B.C. has used this electoral system. Proponents favour its simplicity, and its tendency to produce majority governments.

Opponents, however, contend that it is an unfair electoral system. A candidate does not need to receive at least 50 percent of the votes in his or her district to win. The political party that receives the most votes does not necessarily form government (as occurred in 1996). Each political party's share of votes is not necessarily reflected in its share of seats in the Legislative Assembly (as occurred in 2001).

The British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

In April 2003 the Legislative Assembly unanimously established an independent, non–partisan Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform, consisting of 161 members (one man and one woman from each of the 79 electoral districts, two First Nations members and the chair of the Citizens' Assembly).

The Citizens' Assembly identified three basic values that they believed should form the basis of our electoral system:

- *Fair election results through proportionality*: the number of seats won by each political party in an election should reflect as closely as possible the number of votes each party received;
- *Effective local representation*: each community needs the opportunity to choose the people who speak for it in the legislature, and to hold them accountable in democratic elections; and,
- *Greater voter choice*: citizens should have the fullest possible opportunity to choose the candidates that best represent their interests, among party candidates and across all parties.

After studying a variety of electoral systems used around the world, conducting 50 public hearings across the province and considering over 1,600 written submissions, the Citizens' Assembly ultimately concluded that a single transferable vote (STV) system would best reflect these values, with several features unique to British Columbia, hence BC-STV.

Provincial referendum on BC-STV

In May 2005, B.C. voted in a referendum on the Citizens' Assembly's recommendations. To pass, two thresholds had to be met. First; in at least 48 of 79 electoral districts, more than 50 percent of valid votes cast had to vote "yes" – that threshold was passed in 77 electoral districts. Second, at least 60 percent of valid votes cast province–wide had to vote "yes" – that threshold was not met, as only 57.69 percent voted "yes."

In April 2006 the provincial government announced that a second BC-STV referendum would be held in conjunction with the May 2009 provincial general election.

The role of this Electoral Boundaries Commission

In 2005 the Legislative Assembly enacted the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act*, giving this commission a second task in addition to its normal re-districting responsibilities – to make proposals based on the BC-STV system, as to:

- the areas, boundaries and names of the electoral districts under BC-STV; and,
- the number of MLAs for each of those electoral districts.

The commission is required to propose the same number of MLAs under the current electoral system and under the proposed BC-STV electoral system.

The commission has no preference for or against BC-STV, and has no authority to invite submissions about whether BC-STV should be adopted. It has a limited mandate, to draw proposed BC-STV electoral boundaries, which would be used in the 2013 provincial general election if the May 2009 BC-STV referendum passes.

Key elements of the proposed BC-STV electoral system

Under BC-STV, there would be fewer electoral districts in B.C. Each district would elect between two and seven MLAs, and the number of MLAs might vary among districts. The Citizens' Assembly had recommended that districts should be designed to have as many MLAs as possible, because it is generally accepted that the more MLAs to be elected in a district, the greater the proportionality achieved.

Each voter would get only one vote, but the voter might express preferences for more than one candidate, by marking 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. beside candidates' names on the ballot paper, from most favourite to least favourite.

If the voter's most favourite candidate (#1) received more votes than needed to be elected, or received the fewest votes and was eliminated, then some or all of that voter's vote would be "transferred" to his or her next favourite candidate (#2). The vote would be transferred rather than wasted – hence the "single transferable vote" electoral system.

Public consultation

The commission invites public input on the key elements of its BC-STV boundary setting task:

- Should existing electoral districts be joined together to form BC-STV districts? If not, on what basis should BC-STV districts be drawn, and why?
- What geographic areas and/or existing electoral districts should be included in each BC-STV district, and why?
- How many MLAs (between two and seven) should be elected in each BC-STV district, and why?

Voting under BC-STV

The voting description that follows has been adapted from the *Technical Report* of the Citizens' Assembly. Elections BC would be ultimately responsible for designing and conducting a province-wide BC-STV election.

The ballot paper

Within each BC-STV electoral district, the ballot paper would display the names of all candidates contesting seats, grouped by political party affiliation. Each candidate running as an independent would have his or her own group. All candidates not indicating a party affiliation or that they were running as independents would constitute one group. Within each group, candidates would have their rank order rotated at random, so that each candidate would have an equal chance of being placed in every position within the group.

The rank order of groupings would be rotated at random, so that each group would have an equal chance of being placed in every position on the ballot.

Valid ballots

Voters would indicate their preference for the listed candidates by placing the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. next to candidates' names, with #1 representing the voter's first preference. To be valid, a ballot paper would have to show at least a first preference, or some other mark next to only one candidate's name which made the voter's intention clear.

The number of preferences beyond #1 would be at the voter's discretion, and could exceed the number of candidates to be elected.

A ballot paper with gaps or repetitions in the sequence of numbers beyond the first preference would be valid only up to the gap or the start of the repetition.

Vote counting procedure within each electoral district

After establishing the total number of valid ballots, the minimum number of votes required for a candidate to be elected would be calculated applying a formula. For example, in a five-member district with 180,000 valid ballots, the minimum number of votes required would be 30,001.

All ballots would be allocated according to each voter's #1 preference, and:

- if a candidate received 30,001 votes or more, then that candidate would be declared elected, and any "unused" portion of those votes would be transferred to those voters' second preferences. For example, if the successful candidate received 3,000 more votes than required, then the "transfer value" of 1/10 of a vote would be transferred to those voters' second preferences; and,
- if no candidate received 30,001 votes, then the candidate with the fewest votes would be excluded, and all those voters' second preferences would be allocated among the other candidates, at full value.

Counting would continue according to this sequence until all the MLAs to be elected in the electoral district were elected:

- if the transfer of votes resulted in a candidate getting 30,001 or more votes, that candidate would be declared elected and any surplus would be transferred to the remaining candidates at their transfer value; and,
- if the transfer of votes did not result in any candidate getting 30,001 votes, then the candidate with the fewest votes would be excluded; and,
  - the voters who had voted for that candidate would have their full vote transferred to their next preferences; and,
  - partial votes that had been transferred to that candidate would be transferred again, according to those voters' next preferences, at their transfer value.

To learn more about BC-STV

To learn more about BC-STV or about electoral systems generally, check these websites:

- www.gov.bc.ca/referendum_info (the provincial government's Referendum Information website); and,
- www.citizensassembly.bc.ca – the Citizen's Assembly website, for:
  - the Assembly's *Final Report* and *Technical Report*;
  - the Assembly's 14 Fact Sheets; and,
  - other learning resources – search for "STV resources," then click on Learning Resources and Recommended Reading.

Appendix E

Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted Regionally

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
THE NORTH							
North Coast	149,977	23,135	-54.4	22,279	-57.6	21,119	-61.8
Skeena-Stikine	149,292	38,199	-24.8	37,781	-28.1	37,212	-32.7
Bulkley-Nechako	78,193	38,243	-24.7	38,926	-26.0	40,063	-27.6
Prince George	49	50,893	0.2	51,415	-2.2	52,185	-5.7
Fraser–Fort George	51,832	41,371	-18.5	42,529	-19.1	43,678	-21.0
Peace River	20,052	41,157	-19.0	40,771	-22.4	41,242	-25.4
Northland	254,700	23,881	-53.0	24,107	-54.1	24,710	-55.3
CARIBOO-THOMPSON							
Cariboo-Chilcotin	75,184	45,104	-11.2	45,530	-13.4	45,945	-16.9
Cariboo-Fraser	35,477	42,170	-17.0	42,912	-18.4	43,964	-20.5
Kamloops–South Thompson	3,854	51,812	2.0	54,318	3.3	57,909	4.7
Kamloops–North Thompson	21,694	50,042	-1.5	50,749	-3.5	52,113	-5.8
OKANAGAN							
Shuswap	8,626	53,658	5.7	56,263	7.0	59,980	8.4
Vernon-Monashee	5,016	58,538	15.3	60,404	14.9	63,549	14.9
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,181	51,968	2.3	55,899	6.3	61,421	11.0
Kelowna-Mission	564	53,231	4.8	55,094	4.8	58,535	5.8
Kelowna-Westside	1,140	51,850	2.1	55,106	4.8	59,758	8.0
Penticton	1,919	53,777	5.9	55,492	5.6	58,155	5.1
Boundary-Similkameen	15,954	43,052	-15.2	44,292	-15.7	46,189	-16.5
COLUMBIA-KOOTENAY							
Kootenay East	50,419	39,951	-21.3	40,096	-23.7	40,574	-26.6
Kootenay South	13,870	50,851	0.1	51,879	-1.3	53,342	-3.6
Kootenay West	11,843	54,025	6.4	54,540	3.8	55,286	0.0

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
FRASER VALLEY							
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	1,946	50,474	-0.6	52,376	-0.4	55,157	-0.3
Maple Ridge–Mission	389	50,193	-1.2	53,335	1.5	58,358	5.5
Mission-Clayburn	638	52,874	4.1	55,827	6.2	60,314	9.0
Langley West	73	53,231	4.8	54,510	3.7	57,303	3.6
Langley East	211	50,805	0.0	55,402	5.4	60,985	10.3
Abbotsford-Aldergrove	193	50,965	0.4	55,524	5.6	61,772	11.7
Abbotsford Centre	49	52,495	3.4	53,697	2.1	55,678	0.7
Abbotsford-Chilliwack	281	49,863	-1.8	51,698	-1.7	54,676	-1.1
Chilliwack-Hope	10,842	48,807	-3.9	51,742	-1.6	56,217	1.6
TRI-CITIES							
Port Moody–Coquitlam	83	51,539	1.5	53,555	1.9	57,026	3.1
Coquitlam-Maillardville	30	46,315	-8.8	47,468	-9.7	49,064	-11.3
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	615	46,732	-8.0	53,368	1.5	61,347	10.9
Port Coquitlam	35	52,692	3.8	56,452	7.4	61,245	10.7
SURREY							
Surrey-Whalley	31	51,283	1.0	52,544	0.0	54,173	-2.1
Surrey-Guildford	57	51,801	2.0	55,714	6.0	60,669	9.7
Surrey–Green Timbers	16	51,142	0.7	54,570	3.8	59,255	7.1
Surrey-Fleetwood	25	51,985	2.4	57,225	8.9	64,337	16.3
Surrey-Newton	14	53,711	5.8	58,645	11.6	65,609	18.6
Surrey-Panorama	62	52,060	2.5	55,836	6.2	61,756	11.7
Surrey-Cloverdale	121	50,875	0.2	52,917	0.7	57,402	3.8
Surrey–White Rock	62	51,128	0.7	52,570	0.0	54,661	-1.2
RICHMOND AND DELTA							
Richmond Centre	374	55,942	10.2	60,511	15.1	66,541	20.3
Richmond-Steveston	32	60,721	19.6	62,532	19.0	65,542	18.5
Richmond East	92	57,798	13.8	61,303	16.6	66,478	20.2
Delta South	463	45,774	-9.9	46,682	-11.2	47,980	-13.3
Delta North	32	51,628	1.7	51,992	-1.1	52,668	-4.8

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
BURNABY AND NEW WESTMINSTER							
Burnaby-Brentwood	24	51,274	1.0	51,941	-1.2	53,495	-3.3
Burnaby-Lougheed	37	50,229	-1.1	51,524	-2.0	53,399	-3.5
Burnaby-Willingdon	13	50,957	0.3	54,018	2.8	57,905	4.7
Burnaby-Edmonds	23	50,339	-0.9	53,053	0.9	57,186	3.4
New Westminster	18	58,549	15.3	61,922	17.8	67,084	21.3
VANCOUVER							
Vancouver-Hastings	14	55,595	9.5	55,430	5.4	55,256	-0.1
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	57,185	12.6	59,439	13.1	62,517	13.0
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	57,276	12.8	58,605	11.5	60,504	9.4
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	13	52,628	3.6	52,595	0.1	52,596	-4.9
Vancouver-Kensington	9	54,967	8.2	55,244	5.1	55,764	0.8
Vancouver–West End	12	48,725	-4.1	49,188	-6.4	50,738	-8.3
Vancouver–False Creek	6	43,568	-14.2	47,306	-10.0	52,858	-4.4
Vancouver-Fairview	9	52,020	2.4	53,055	0.9	54,403	-1.6
Vancouver-Langara	15	57,047	12.3	57,986	10.3	59,493	7.6
Vancouver–Point Grey	44	54,823	8.0	56,007	6.5	57,885	4.7
Vancouver-Quilchena	22	56,409	11.1	55,993	6.5	55,961	1.2
NORTH SHORE							
North Vancouver–Seymour	395	52,164	2.7	52,931	0.7	54,424	-1.6
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	27	54,600	7.5	56,998	8.4	60,370	9.1
West Vancouver–Capilano	80	54,238	6.8	54,752	4.2	56,083	1.4
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	9,613	49,161	-3.2	52,018	-1.0	56,118	1.5
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND SOUTH COAST							
North Island	44,502	53,654	5.7	53,782	2.3	54,328	-1.8
Comox Valley	1,707	55,543	9.4	58,182	10.7	62,056	12.2
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	21,232	47,109	-7.2	48,533	-7.7	50,841	-8.1
Central Island	13,903	46,214	-9.0	46,434	-11.7	47,535	-14.1
Parksville-Qualicum	1,070	53,318	5.0	57,378	9.2	63,024	13.9
Nanaimo	627	53,940	6.2	54,593	3.9	56,319	1.8
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	2,528	52,695	3.8	54,635	3.9	57,746	4.4
Cowichan–Goldstream	1,731	54,946	8.2	58,116	10.6	62,906	13.7

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND SOUTH COAST (con't)							
Saanich North and the Islands	1,526	55,201	8.7	56,603	7.7	59,132	6.9
Saanich West	93	56,548	11.4	58,196	10.7	61,041	10.4
Saanich East	91	51,880	2.2	51,584	-1.9	52,202	-5.6
Victoria–Oak Bay	290	57,571	13.4	57,237	8.9	57,849	4.6
Victoria-Esquimalt	99	57,133	12.5	57,379	9.2	58,788	6.3
Juan de Fuca	2,646	56,240	10.7	56,933	8.3	59,250	7.1
BC Total	1,070,042#	4,113,487		4,257,965		4,480,198	

Notes:

* *Electoral district areas determined by Elections BC map production staff.*

** *Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

# *Difference due to rounding.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix F

Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
Abbotsford Centre	49	52,495	3.4	53,697	2.1	55,678	0.7
Abbotsford-Aldergrove	193	50,965	0.4	55,524	5.6	61,772	11.7
Abbotsford-Chilliwack	281	49,863	-1.8	51,698	-1.7	54,676	-1.1
Boundary-Similkameen	15,954	43,052	-15.2	44,292	-15.7	46,189	-16.5
Bulkley-Nechako	78,193	38,243	-24.7	38,926	-26.0	40,063	-27.6
Burnaby-Brentwood	24	51,274	1.0	51,941	-1.2	53,495	-3.3
Burnaby-Edmonds	23	50,339	-0.9	53,053	0.9	57,186	3.4
Burnaby-Lougheed	37	50,229	-1.1	51,524	-2.0	53,399	-3.5
Burnaby-Willingdon	13	50,957	0.3	54,018	2.8	57,905	4.7
Cariboo-Chilcotin	75,184	45,104	-11.2	45,530	-13.4	45,945	-16.9
Cariboo-Fraser	35,477	42,170	-17.0	42,912	-18.4	43,964	-20.5
Central Island	13,903	46,214	-9.0	46,434	-11.7	47,535	-14.1
Chilliwack-Hope	10,842	48,807	-3.9	51,742	-1.6	56,217	1.6
Comox Valley	1,707	55,543	9.4	58,182	10.7	62,056	12.2
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	615	46,732	-8.0	53,368	1.5	61,347	10.9
Coquitlam-Maillardville	30	46,315	-8.8	47,468	-9.7	49,064	-11.3
Cowichan-Goldstream	1,731	54,946	8.2	58,116	10.6	62,906	13.7
Delta North	32	51,628	1.7	51,992	-1.1	52,668	-4.8
Delta South	463	45,774	-9.9	46,682	-11.2	47,980	-13.3
Fraser–Fort George	51,832	41,371	-18.5	42,529	-19.1	43,678	-21.0
Juan de Fuca	2,646	56,240	10.7	56,933	8.3	59,250	7.1
Kamloops–North Thompson	21,694	50,042	-1.5	50,749	-3.5	52,113	-5.8
Kamloops–South Thompson	3,854	51,812	2.0	54,318	3.3	57,909	4.7
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,181	51,968	2.3	55,899	6.3	61,421	11.0
Kelowna-Mission	564	53,231	4.8	55,094	4.8	58,535	5.8
Kelowna-Westside	1,140	51,850	2.1	55,106	4.8	59,758	8.0
Kootenay East	50,419	39,951	-21.3	40,096	-23.7	40,574	-26.6
Kootenay South	13,870	50,851	0.1	51,879	-1.3	53,342	-3.6

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
Kootenay West	11,843	54,025	6.4	54,540	3.8	55,286	0.0
Langley East	211	50,805	0.0	55,402	5.4	60,985	10.3
Langley West	73	53,231	4.8	54,510	3.7	57,303	3.6
Maple Ridge–Mission	389	50,193	-1.2	53,335	1.5	58,358	5.5
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	1,946	50,474	-0.6	52,376	-0.4	55,157	-0.3
Mission-Clayburn	638	52,874	4.1	55,827	6.2	60,314	9.0
Nanaimo	627	53,940	6.2	54,593	3.9	56,319	1.8
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	2,528	52,695	3.8	54,635	3.9	57,746	4.4
New Westminster	18	58,549	15.3	61,922	17.8	67,084	21.3
North Coast	149,977	23,135	-54.4	22,279	-57.6	21,119	-61.8
North Island	44,502	53,654	5.7	53,782	2.3	54,328	-1.8
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	27	54,600	7.5	56,998	8.4	60,370	9.1
North Vancouver–Seymour	395	52,164	2.7	52,931	0.7	54,424	-1.6
Northland	254,700	23,881	-53.0	24,107	-54.1	24,710	-55.3
Parksville-Qualicum	1,070	53,318	5.0	57,378	9.2	63,024	13.9
Peace River	20,052	41,157	-19.0	40,771	-22.4	41,242	-25.4
Penticton	1,919	53,777	5.9	55,492	5.6	58,155	5.1
Port Coquitlam	35	52,692	3.8	56,452	7.4	61,245	10.7
Port Moody–Coquitlam	83	51,539	1.5	53,555	1.9	57,026	3.1
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	21,232	47,109	-7.2	48,533	-7.7	50,841	-8.1
Prince George	49	50,893	0.2	51,415	-2.2	52,185	–5.7
Richmond Centre	374	55,942	10.2	60,511	15.1	66,541	20.3
Richmond East	92	57,798	13.8	61,303	16.6	66,478	20.2
Richmond-Steveston	32	60,721	19.6	62,532	19.0	65,542	18.5
Saanich East	91	51,880	2.2	51,584	-1.9	52,202	-5.6
Saanich North and the Islands	1,526	55,201	8.7	56,603	7.7	59,132	6.9
Saanich West	93	56,548	11.4	58,196	10.7	61,041	10.4
Shuswap	8,626	53,658	5.7	56,263	7.0	59,980	8.4
Skeena-Stikine	149,292	38,199	-24.8	37,781	-28.1	37,212	-32.7
Surrey-Cloverdale	121	50,875	0.2	52,917	0.7	57,402	3.8
Surrey-Fleetwood	25	51,985	2.4	57,225	8.9	64,337	16.3
Surrey–Green Timbers	16	51,142	0.7	54,570	3.8	59,255	7.1
Surrey-Guildford	57	51,801	2.0	55,714	6.0	60,669	9.7
Surrey-Newton	14	53,711	5.8	58,645	11.6	65,609	18.6
Surrey-Panorama	62	52,060	2.5	55,836	6.2	61,756	11.7

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
Surrey-Whalley	31	51,283	1.0	52,544	0.0	54,173	-2.1
Surrey–White Rock	62	51,128	0.7	52,570	0.0	54,661	-1.2
Vancouver-Fairview	9	52,020	2.4	53,055	0.9	54,403	-1.6
Vancouver–False Creek	6	43,568	-14.2	47,306	-10.0	52,858	-4.4
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	57,276	12.8	58,605	11.5	60,504	9.4
Vancouver-Hastings	14	55,595	9.5	55,430	5.4	55,256	-0.1
Vancouver-Kensington	9	54,967	8.2	55,244	5.1	55,764	0.8
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	57,185	12.6	59,439	13.1	62,517	13.0
Vancouver-Langara	15	57,047	12.3	57,986	10.3	59,493	7.6
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	13	52,628	3.6	52,595	0.1	52,596	-4.9
Vancouver–Point Grey	44	54,823	8.0	56,007	6.5	57,885	4.7
Vancouver-Quilchena	22	56,409	11.1	55,993	6.5	55,961	1.2
Vancouver–West End	12	48,725	-4.1	49,188	-6.4	50,738	-8.3
Vernon-Monashee	5,016	58,538	15.3	60,404	14.9	63,549	14.9
Victoria-Esquimalt	99	57,133	12.5	57,379	9.2	58,788	6.3
Victoria–Oak Bay	290	57,571	13.4	57,237	8.9	57,849	4.6
West Vancouver–Capilano	80	54,238	6.8	54,752	4.2	56,083	1.4
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	9,613	49,161	-3.2	52,018	-1.0	56,118	1.5
BC Total	1,070,042*	4,113,487		4,257,965		4,480,198	

Notes:

* *Electoral district areas determined by Elections BC map production staff.*

** *Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

# *Difference due to rounding.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix G

Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted by 2006 Ascending Population

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
North Coast	149,977	23,135	-54.4	22,279	-57.6	21,119	-61.8
Northland	254,700	23,881	-53.0	24,107	-54.1	24,710	-55.3
Skeena-Stikine	149,292	38,199	-24.8	37,781	-28.1	37,212	-32.7
Bulkley-Nechako	78,193	38,243	-24.7	38,926	-26.0	40,063	-27.6
Kootenay East	50,419	39,951	-21.3	40,096	-23.7	40,574	-26.6
Peace River	20,052	41,157	-19.0	40,771	-22.4	41,242	-25.4
Fraser–Fort George	51,832	41,371	-18.5	42,529	-19.1	43,678	-21.0
Cariboo-Fraser	35,477	42,170	-17.0	42,912	-18.4	43,964	-20.5
Boundary-Similkameen	15,954	43,052	-15.2	44,292	-15.7	46,189	-16.5
Vancouver–False Creek	6	43,568	-14.2	47,306	-10.0	52,858	-4.4
Cariboo-Chilcotin	75,184	45,104	-11.2	45,530	-13.4	45,945	-16.9
Delta South	463	45,774	-9.9	46,682	-11.2	47,980	-13.3
Central Island	13,903	46,214	-9.0	46,434	-11.7	47,535	-14.1
Coquitlam-Maillardville	30	46,315	-8.8	47,468	-9.7	49,064	-11.3
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	615	46,732	-8.0	53,368	1.5	61,347	10.9
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	21,232	47,109	-7.2	48,533	-7.7	50,841	-8.1
Vancouver–West End	12	48,725	-4.1	49,188	-6.4	50,738	-8.3
Chilliwack-Hope	10,842	48,807	-3.9	51,742	-1.6	56,217	1.6
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	9,613	49,161	-3.2	52,018	-1.0	56,118	1.5
Abbotsford-Chilliwack	281	49,863	-1.8	51,698	-1.7	54,676	-1.1
Kamloops–North Thompson	21,694	50,042	-1.5	50,749	-3.5	52,113	-5.8
Maple Ridge–Mission	389	50,193	-1.2	53,335	1.5	58,358	5.5
Burnaby-Lougheed	37	50,229	-1.1	51,524	-2.0	53,399	-3.5
Burnaby-Edmonds	23	50,339	-0.9	53,053	0.9	57,186	3.4
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	1,946	50,474	-0.6	52,376	-0.4	55,157	-0.3
Langley East	211	50,805	0.0	55,402	5.4	60,985	10.3
Kootenay South	13,870	50,851	0.1	51,879	-1.3	53,342	-3.6

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
Surrey-Cloverdale	121	50,875	0.2	52,917	0.7	57,402	3.8
Prince George	49	50,893	0.2	51,415	-2.2	52,185	-5.7
Burnaby-Willingdon	13	50,957	0.3	54,018	2.8	57,905	4.7
Abbotsford-Aldergrove	193	50,965	0.4	55,524	5.6	61,772	11.7
Surrey–White Rock	62	51,128	0.7	52,570	0.0	54,661	-1.2
Surrey–Green Timbers	16	51,142	0.7	54,570	3.8	59,255	7.1
Burnaby-Brentwood	24	51,274	1.0	51,941	-1.2	53,495	-3.3
Surrey-Whalley	31	51,283	1.0	52,544	0.0	54,173	-2.1
Port Moody–Coquitlam	83	51,539	1.5	53,555	1.9	57,026	3.1
Delta North	32	51,628	1.7	51,992	-1.1	52,668	-4.8
Surrey-Guildford	57	51,801	2.0	55,714	6.0	60,669	9.7
Kamloops–South Thompson	3,854	51,812	2.0	54,318	3.3	57,909	4.7
Kelowna-Westside	1,140	51,850	2.1	55,106	4.8	59,758	8.0
Saanich East	91	51,880	2.2	51,584	-1.9	52,202	–5.6
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,181	51,968	2.3	55,899	6.3	61,421	11.0
Surrey-Fleetwood	25	51,985	2.4	57,225	8.9	64,337	16.3
Vancouver-Fairview	9	52,020	2.4	53,055	0.9	54,403	-1.6
Surrey-Panorama	62	52,060	2.5	55,836	6.2	61,756	11.7
North Vancouver–Seymour	395	52,164	2.7	52,931	0.7	54,424	-1.6
Abbotsford Centre	49	52,495	3.4	53,697	2.1	55,678	0.7
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	13	52,628	3.6	52,595	0.1	52,596	-4.9
Port Coquitlam	35	52,692	3.8	56,452	7.4	61,245	10.7
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	2,528	52,695	3.8	54,635	3.9	57,746	4.4
Mission-Clayburn	638	52,874	4.1	55,827	6.2	60,314	9.0
Kelowna-Mission	564	53,231	4.8	55,094	4.8	58,535	5.8
Langley West	73	53,231	4.8	54,510	3.7	57,303	3.6
Parksville-Qualicum	1,070	53,318	5.0	57,378	9.2	63,024	13.9
North Island	44,502	53,654	5.7	53,782	2.3	54,328	-1.8
Shuswap	8,626	53,658	5.7	56,263	7.0	59,980	8.4
Surrey-Newton	14	53,711	5.8	58,645	11.6	65,609	18.6
Penticton	1,919	53,777	5.9	55,492	5.6	58,155	5.1
Nanaimo	627	53,940	6.2	54,593	3.9	56,319	1.8
Kootenay West	11,843	54,025	6.4	54,540	3.8	55,286	0.0
West Vancouver–Capilano	80	54,238	6.8	54,752	4.2	56,083	1.4
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	27	54,600	7.5	56,998	8.4	60,370	9.1

Electoral District	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
Vancouver–Point Grey	44	54,823	8.0	56,007	6.5	57,885	4.7
Cowichan-Goldstream	1,731	54,946	8.2	58,116	10.6	62,906	13.7
Vancouver-Kensington	9	54,967	8.2	55,244	5.1	55,764	0.8
Saanich North and the Islands	1,526	55,201	8.7	56,603	7.7	59,132	6.9
Comox Valley	1,707	55,543	9.4	58,182	10.7	62,056	12.2
Vancouver-Hastings	14	55,595	9.5	55,430	5.4	55,256	-0.1
Richmond Centre	374	55,942	10.2	60,511	15.1	66,541	20.3
Juan de Fuca	2,646	56,240	10.7	56,933	8.3	59,250	7.1
Vancouver-Quilchena	22	56,409	11.1	55,993	6.5	55,961	1.2
Saanich West	93	56,548	11.4	58,196	10.7	61,041	10.4
Vancouver-Langara	15	57,047	12.3	57,986	10.3	59,493	7.6
Victoria-Esquimalt	99	57,133	12.5	57,379	9.2	58,788	6.3
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	57,185	12.6	59,439	13.1	62,517	13.0
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	57,276	12.8	58,605	11.5	60,504	9.4
Victoria–Oak Bay	290	57,571	13.4	57,237	8.9	57,849	4.6
Richmond East	92	57,798	13.8	61,303	16.6	66,478	20.2
Vernon-Monashee	5,016	58,538	15.3	60,404	14.9	63,549	14.9
New Westminster	18	58,549	15.3	61,922	17.8	67,084	21.3
Richmond-Steveston	32	60,721	19.6	62,532	19.0	65,542	18.5
BC Total	1,070,042#	4,113,487		4,257,965		4,480,198	

Notes:

* *Electoral district areas determined by Elections BC map production staff.*

** *Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

# *Difference due to rounding.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix H

Proposed BC-STV Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically

Electoral District	No. of MLAs	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
		(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
Burnaby–New Westminster	5	116	261,348	2.9	272,458	3.7	289,069	4.5
Capital Region	6	4,745	334,573	9.8	337,932	7.1	348,263	4.9
Cariboo-Thompson	4	136,209	189,128	-6.9	193,509	-8.0	199,932	-9.6
Columbia-Kootenay	3	76,132	144,827	-4.9	146,515	-7.1	149,202	-10.1
Fraser Valley East	4	11,810	204,039	0.4	212,963	1.3	226,885	2.5
Fraser Valley West	5	2,812	255,668	0.7	271,147	3.2	293,575	6.2
Mid-Island	4	5,955	214,899	5.8	224,722	6.9	239,995	8.5
North Central	3	130,074	130,507	-14.3	132,870	-15.7	135,926	-18.1
North Island–South Coast	4	81,345	202,520	-0.3	206,931	-1.6	214,759	-2.9
North Shore	4	10,115	210,163	3.5	216,699	3.1	226,995	2.6
Northeast	2	274,752	65,038	-36.0	64,878	-38.3	65,951	-40.4
Northwest	2	299,270	61,334	-39.6	60,060	-42.9	58,330	-47.3
Okanagan-Boundary	3	19,013	148,679	-2.4	154,889	-1.8	164,102	-1.1
Okanagan-Shuswap	4	15,386	217,395	7.0	227,659	8.3	243,485	10.1
Richmond-Delta	5	991	271,863	7.1	283,020	7.7	299,209	8.2
Surrey North	4	129	206,211	1.5	220,054	4.7	238,435	7.8
Surrey South	4	259	207,774	2.3	219,968	4.6	239,429	8.2
Tri-Cities	4	763	197,278	-2.9	210,842	0.3	228,682	3.4
Vancouver East	5	57	277,651	9.3	281,313	7.0	286,637	3.6
Vancouver West	6	109	312,592	2.6	319,534	1.3	331,338	-0.2
BC Total	81	1,070,042	4,113,487		4,257,965		4,480,198	

Notes:

** Electoral district areas determined by Elections BC map production staff.*

*** Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix I

Proposed BC-STV Electoral Districts – Sorted by Ascending Population 2006

Electoral District	No. of MLAs	Area*	2006		2009		2013	
		(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**
Northwest	2	299,270	61,334	-39.6	60,060	-42.9	58,330	-47.3
Northeast	2	274,752	65,038	-36.0	64,878	-38.3	65,951	-40.4
North Central	3	130,074	130,507	-14.3	132,870	-15.7	135,926	-18.1
Columbia-Kootenay	3	76,132	144,827	-4.9	146,515	-7.1	149,202	-10.1
Okanagan-Boundary	3	19,013	148,679	-2.4	154,889	-1.8	164,102	-1.1
Cariboo-Thompson	4	136,209	189,128	-6.9	193,509	-8.0	199,932	-9.6
Tri-Cities	4	763	197,278	-2.9	210,842	0.3	228,682	3.4
North Island–South Coast	4	81,345	202,520	-0.3	206,931	-1.6	214,759	-2.9
Fraser Valley East	4	11,810	204,039	0.4	212,963	1.3	226,885	2.5
Surrey North	4	129	206,211	1.5	220,054	4.7	238,435	7.8
Surrey South	4	259	207,774	2.3	219,968	4.6	239,429	8.2
North Shore	4	10,115	210,163	3.5	216,699	3.1	226,995	2.6
Mid-Island	4	5,955	214,899	5.8	224,722	6.9	239,995	8.5
Okanagan-Shuswap	4	15,386	217,395	7.0	227,659	8.3	243,485	10.1
Fraser Valley West	5	2,812	255,668	0.7	271,147	3.2	293,575	6.2
Burnaby–New Westminster	5	116	261,348	2.9	272,458	3.7	289,069	4.5
Richmond-Delta	5	991	271,863	7.1	283,020	7.7	299,209	8.2
Vancouver East	5	57	277,651	9.3	281,313	7.0	286,637	3.6
Vancouver West	6	109	312,592	2.6	319,534	1.3	331,338	-0.2
Capital Region	6	4,745	334,573	9.8	337,932	7.1	348,263	4.9
BC Total	81	1,070,042	4,113,487		4,257,965		4,480,198	

Notes:

** Electoral district areas determined by Elections BC map production staff.*

*** Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix J

Public Consultation Sessions 2006

Victoria (MLA), Sept 13, 2006

Austin, Robin
Bergerud, Wendy
Bruce, Ryan
Cubberley, David
Krog, Leonard
Nichols, Laura
Patterson, Robert
Sanford, Glen
Simpson, Robert

Victoria (Public), Sept 13, 2006

Beddoes, Jeff
Bergerud, Wendy
Byford, Dave
Byford, Diana
Clement, Chris
Cleverly, Bill
Hoan, Ian
Johnson, Linda
Karagianis, Maurine
LaPointe, Daris
Lefebvre, Debbie
Loenen, Nick
McClarnon, Cassandra
McLean, Connie
McRae, Don
Moore, Reg
Nichols, Laura

Victoria (con't)

Offman, Marnie
Ruff, Norman
Sanford, Glen
Schulman, Bernard
Stabler, Jason
Walker, Shirley
West, Julian
Winter, Benjamin

Vancouver (Parties), Sept 14, 2006

Adams, Roy
Allington, Robert
Baxter, Dan
Boyle, Charles
Carr, Adriane
Fletcher, James
Fox, Jeff
Gamble, Ron
George, Paul
Hague, John J.
Landers, Tom
Nichols, Laura
O'Donnell, Dorothy-Jean
Ralston, Bruce
Tarplett, Bob

Vancouver (Public 1), Sept 14, 2006

Baillie, Ian
Brown, Leslie
D'Angelo, Raigen
Dignard, Rick
Hadly Eleanor
Hill, Nicola
Hodgson, Antony
Ireland, Neall
Kalanj, Tiffany
Kirby, Frankie
MacKenzie, Donald
Mottershead, Donna
Phillips, Stephen
Read, Drina
Reimer, Andrea
Richard, Kevin
Rockwell, Brian
Sanford, Glen
Tieleman, Bill
Van Caenegam, Frederic

Richmond, Sept 18, 2006

Bannister, Brooke K.
Davidson, Edith
Land, John
Peter, Sacha
Sanford, Glen
Skovgaard, Jakob
Smith, Neil

New Westminster, Sept 19, 2006

Boudreaux, Michelle
Carswell, Ray
Chouhan, Raj
Cote, John
Cox, Mike
Daly, Joey
Devine, Mike
Grant, Peggy
Harper, Bill
Huntley, David
Julian, Terry
O'Connor, Patrick
Puchmayer, Chuck
Robinsmith, Stacey
Sanford, Glen
Sawchen, Bill
Zdunic, Allan

Fort Nelson, Sept 20, 2006

Cannon, Judith
Little, James
Morey, Chris

Dawson Creek, Sept 21, 2006

Chelle, Wilf
Eglinski, Jim
Gowman, Elvin
Hadland, Arthur
Hadland, Laurel
Johns, David
Kux-Icardos, Charles
Lekstrom, Blair

Nanaimo, Sept 25, 2006

Brennan, Jamie
Byers, Dave
Ensminger, Jean
Goddard, Melanie
Hunter, Mike
Krog, Leonard
Lance, Shirley
Mirau, Garth
Murray, Anne
Park, Rob
Phelan, Katie
Routley, Doug
Sanford, Glen
Scotton, Joyce
Smits, Robert
West, Julian
White, Ross
Wood, Susan
Zens, Fritz

Campbell River, Sept 26, 2006

Campbell, Sterling
Hall, Marianne
Le Pas, Brian
Sanford, Glen
Shout, Frederick
Skwarok, Ted
Stone, Ken
Trevena, Claire
Walker, Barbara

Courtenay, Sept 27, 2006

Barr, Susan
Bruce, Trevor
Davis, Anne
Munroe, Don
Munroe, Pam
Murray, Suzanne
Oliver, Thelma
Price, Barbara
Sanford, Glen
Sanford, Karen
Tetrault, Marcel
Tevington, Kevin
Wallin, Paul

Vancouver (MLA), Sept 28, 2006

Farnworth, Mike
Fletcher, James
Lalli, Harry
McIver, Bryan
Nichols, Laura
Ralston, Bruce
Simpson, Shane
Thorne, Diane

Sechelt, Sept 30, 2006

Barrett, Daniel
Beale, Patricia
Chapman, Lyn
Heppel, Sam
Hunt, Keith
Jackel, Sue

Sechelt (con't)

Johnstone, James
Lutes, Alice
McCallum, Dorothy
McIver, Bryan
McNevin, John
Robb, Donald
Simons, Nicholas
Tylor, Alannah
Tylor, Rodg
Umezuki, Marte
Whitelaw–Dykes, Anne
Wilson, Judith
Wong, Christina
Wood, Christine

Langley, Oct 02, 2006

Britton, Erik
Bucholtz, Frank
Canessa, Mildred
Chu, Jason
Coxworth, Lynn
Douglas, Bob
Gidda, Moe
McIver, Bryan
Offer, Matt
Storteboom, Rudy
Zheng, Jessica

North Vancouver, Oct 03, 2006

Bonney, Brian
Day, Korky
Henderson, Glenn

North Vancouver (con't)

Kilian, Crawford
McIver, Bryan
Schechter, Sam
Sultan, Ralph
Tunner, Alex

Prince George, Oct 04, 2006

Adamick, Drew
Carson, Brad
Ewart, Peter
Fraser, Chuck
Fraser, Doug
Jarbek, Mary
Manning, Jan
Mathison, Owen
Michalos, Alex
Ouellette, Tina
Phillips, Bill
Poff, Deborah
Puhallo, Steven
Row, John
Sanford, Glen
Selhen, Sherry
Strachan, Bruce
Tasa, Devan
Warner, John
Whitcombe, Todd
Zenzen, Shelley

Williams Lake, Oct 05, 2007

Cobb, Walter
Davidson, Ernie

Williams Lake (con't)

Day, Larry
Dressler, John
Lali, Harry
Longwood, Karen
Monk, Bob
Nelson, Scott
Olesiuk, Don
Sanford, Glen
White, Fran
White, John
Wilson, Ken
Wyse, Charlie
Zirnhelt, David

Kelowna, Oct 10, 2006

Abramsen, Karen
Barbosa, Patrick
Day, Desiree
Degnhardt, Jonathan
Dixon, Darlene
Dixon, Harry
Gibson, Doug
Gonsalves, Wendy
Kmet, Wes
Lakes, Tish
MacIver, Bryan
Phillipo, Brian
Robinson, Eileen
Westmacott, David
Whiteley, Robert

Penticton, Oct 11, 2006

Ashton, Dan
Baird, Bill
Barisoff, Bill
Basran, Colin
Cornish, Sid
Despot, Walter
Enzmann, Rudy
Harrop, John
Lynch, Donna
Lynch, Norman
MacDermott, Sheila
McIver, Bryan
McLean, Randy
Moorhouse, John
Morrice, Jeff
Smith, June
Wood, Jeannette

Kamloops, Oct 12, 2006

Charbonneau, David
Corday, Chris
Delisle, Denis
Dormer, John
Elliot, Ronaye
Fortems, Cam
Fraser, Grant
Grenier, Mike
Holitzki, Greg
Jones, Ray
Kerssens, Jack
Knox, Fawn
Koch, Scott

Kamloops (con't)

Ladyman, Jason
Lebitschnig, Rick
MacIntosh, Bob
MacIver, Bryan
Makaro, Ida
Mitchell, Murray
Moody, Bob
O'Connor, Chris
Puhalo, Steven
Ranta, John
Tatton, George
Vandermey, Richard
Vickery, Fred
Worth, Garry
York, Marion

Surrey, Oct 14, 2006

Annable, Cliff
Bains, Harry
Bell, Richard
Bhandal, Ruby
Bose, Bob
Bould, Heather
Brar, Jagrup
Brar, Rajwant
Brulhart, Lill
Brulhart, Mr.
Campbell, Dave
Chahal, Balwinder
Chittim, Peter
Ferguson, Catherine
Grimmer, Dianne
Hill, Kathie

Surrey (con't)

Hushain, Amaari
Karpoff, Jim
Kaufman, Mizoe
Koett, Richard
Malen, Loren
Marrington, Koni
Masters, Ed
McClurg, Betty
McDonald, Janise
McDonald, Mike
McPherson, Ian
Nichols, Norman
Peterson, Anne
Ralston, Bruce
Ritcey, Neera
Sahota, Gurleen
Sanford, Glen
Townsley, Teresa
Villanueve, Judy
Vipond, David

Smithers, Oct 16, 2006

Benson, Lorne
Davidson, Jim
Fraser, Judy
Harris, Kathy
Harris, Roger
Hoover, Virginia
MacKay, Dennis
MacKay, Edith
Mueller, Klaus
Nikal, Carmen

Smithers (con't)

Penninga, Jeremy
Vandermuelen, Joanne

Prince Rupert, Oct 17, 2006

Aradt, Hunilo
Beil, Fred
Belsey, Bill
Belsey, Lonie
Bowles, Marty
Coons, Gary
Cote, Ken
Davies, Jennifer
Golden, Larry
Gordon-Payne, Sheila
Helene, Sandra
Jay, Douglas
Justice, Charles
King, Peter
Lochnor, Gord
McGuigan, Dave
Nobels, Des
Rendell, Gloria
Reynierse, Don
Ritchie, Leanne
Roberts, Brian
Smith, Dave
Smith, Shawn
Thomas, Shawn
Thorkelson, Joy
Woodrow, Pauline

Masset, Oct 18, 2006

Bell, Lily C.
Buell, Brent
Hooton, Gavin
Pages, Barry
Saltex, David
Suffredine, Blair
Weinem, Jann
Woode, Ed

Coquitlam, Oct 19, 2006

Asgeirsson, Linda
Bonny, Ryan
Broscoe, Stephen
Burtun, Debra
Cox, Michael
Dorey, Linda
Easton, Mike
Elliot, Bob
Evans, Garth
Farnworth, Mike
Flynn, Brenda
Harder, Derrick
Henschel, Craig
King, Charley
McIver, Ryan
Phillips, Don
Pollock, Rita
Radia, Andy
Seale, Sheryl
Taylor, Jon
Thorne, Diane
Tones, Kathy
West, Brad

Vancouver (Public 2), Oct 21, 2006

Allan, Nathan
Anonymous
Astorga, Gilbert
Bergerud, Wendy
Bonney, Brian
Brown, Les
Brown, Mark
Byford, Diana
Chan, Jenny
Evans, Sarah
Gardiner, Michael
Gregson, Sharon
Harder, Derrick
Henschel, Craig
Hsu, Ray
Ireland, Neall
Kirby, Frankie
Koscielniak, Shane
McArthur, Doug
McIver, Bryan
Meslo, Bev
O'Connor, Jessica
Oreck, Mira
Perry, David
Phillips, Stephen
Popa, Andrei
Robertson, Gregor
Russell, Maya
Sanford, Glen
Sarti, Bob
Tones, Richard
VanCanaegen, Frederick
Walker, Andrew
Willis, David
Zdunni, Allan

Port Alberni, Oct 30, 2006

Chopra, Hira
Dietrich, Marlene
Diotte, Rob
Dyson, Russell
Fraser, Scott
Lockindar, Jim
McLennan, Jack
McRae, Ken
Mealey, Charles
Patterson, Ike
Smith, Neal
Solda, Cindy
Whiteman, Ken

Port Hardy, Oct 31, 2006

Ackland, Shirley
Bood, Hank
Daffurn, Jennifer
McLennan, Stan
LeGal, Gloria
Parnham, Bev
Paterson, Peter
Swain, Cathy
Tidbury, John
Winfield, Bruce

Cranbrook, Nov 01, 2006

Bush, Grete
Edwards, Anne
Ewan, Glen
Fennell, Jim

Cranbrook (con't)

MacDonald, Norm
MacKinnon, Allan
Orr, Joy
Paulson, Lowell
Quaale, Cynthia
Rouse, Michael
Sanford, Glen
Shottanana, Kay

Maple Ridge, Nov 01, 2006

Bruce, Mike
Cooke, Randy
Edwards, Gerald
Fletcher, James
Hunt, Lee
Kiner, Donavin
Maser, Harvey
McCamlui, Joe
McKenna, Jennifer
Phillips, Don
Reynolds, Debbie
Robson, Gordy
Sather, Michael
Smelser, Rodney
Wakeling, Alexander
Wedemire, Avril
Wedemire, Garth

Nelson, Nov 02, 2006

Cherbo, Robin
Conroy, Ed

Nelson (con't)

Dickson, Kerrie
Esco, Hugh
Gilfillan, Michael
Hadikin, Jamie
Harvey, Ann
Hicks, Glenn
Humphries, Glyn
Jones, Wyllie
Nickle, Margaret
Switzer, Rob

Chilliwack, Nov 02, 2006

Appeldoorn, Brenda Lee
Carmichael, Ingrid
Comeau, Gordon
Ens, Al
Hardy, Lawrence
Kerr, Leslie
Nessel, Val
Pranger, Sylvia
Roulston, Clifford
Wiens, Martha

Terrace, Nov 16, 2006

Austin, Robin
Bidgood, Bruce
Culp, Jim
Fraser, Judy
Godet, Francoise
Hensen, Ellen
Jeffrey, Kevin

Terrace (con't)

Marcellin, Bob
McDaniel, Rich
Reimers, Mia
Ross, Nancy
Scolz, Wolfgang
Sheridan, Gord
Tait, Brian
Zinnmen, Sarah

Merritt, Nov 29, 2006

Aljam, Harold
Clarke, Nadia
Gillespie, Margaret
Grant, Don
Grant, Jean
Kandola, Das
Kiegert, Jean
Laird, David
Lalli, Harry
Lisle, R.
McLeod, Don
Ortis, Larry
Oswin, Colin
Reimer, Elmer
Rhodes, Shirley
Ruvinsky, Auren
Salomon-de-Friedberg, E.
Samra, Peter
Sandur, Ravinder
Sanford, Glen
Scheitel, Terry
Steffens, Allan
Swan, Gordon
Vicktor, Wilfried
Vohradsky, W.

Appendix K

Written Submissions (Individuals) as of May 31, 2007

Name of Submitters	City
Asgeirsson, Linda	Coquitlam
Ashton, Dan	Penticton
Bannister, Brooke	Richmond
Bourquin, Maclynne	Hope
Brown, Doug	Surrey
Brown, Les	Vancouver
Bruce, Michael	Vancouver
Brulhart, Lill	Surrey
Charlton, Laurie	Rossland
Churchill, Ron	Burnaby
Cox, Michael	Coquitlam
Davies, Robert	Burnaby
Day, Korky	Vancouver
Dinwoodie, Aaron	Westbank
Donaldson, Doug	Hazelton
Dyck, Matthew	Westbank
Dyer, Slade	Mission
Edwards, Anne	Moyie
Elder, Sarah	White Rock
Elliott, Ronaye	Kamloops
Emmott, Alan	Burnaby
Ernst, Bruce	Quesnel
Erridge, C.P.	Surrey
Ewart, Peter	Prince George
Farwell, Scott	Prince Rupert
Fawkes, David	Vancouver
Feldhoff, Mario	Kitimat
Field, David	Burnaby
Fisher-Bradley, Stephen	Port Alberni
Forman, Lloyd	Boston Bar
Forrest, Mike	Port Coquitlam
Fraser, Chuck	Prince George
Gates, Philip	Duncan
Gay, Rob	Cranbrook
Gray, Walter	Kelowna
Grigg, Harvey	Coquitlam
Guiled, Brenda	Saltspring Island
Hallquist, Bruce	Summerland
Hames, Clint	Chilliwack
Hanson, George	Cawston
Hart, David	Cobble Hill
Hepner, Linda	White Rock
Heywood, Robert	North Vancouver
Hodgson, Antony	Vancouver
Holland, John	Stewart
Humphries, Glyn	Nelson
Hunter, Mike	Nanaimo
Hwang, Michael	Burnaby
Jefferson, Wayne	White Rock
Jennings, Sara	Whistler
Johnston, Alistair	White Rock
Jones, Ray	Kamloops
Jones, Jennifer	Vancouver
Kemmis, Faye	Victoria
Kennedy, Michael	Lillooet
Koscielniak, Shane	Vancouver
Lawrence, Donald	Vancouver
Leigh, Brent	Whistler

Name of Submitters	City
Leith, Kip	Surrey
Li, Yuk	Vancouver
Lin, Chao–Chen	Surrey
Lochhead, Marion	Coquitlam
Loenen, Nick	Richmond
Lowrey, Ursula	Nelson
Mackinnon, Margaret	Vancouver
Mallory, Charlotte	Halfmoon Bay
Masi, Reni	Surrey
Mayo, Ann	St. Andrews
McCosh, David	Coquitlam
McDaniel, Rich	Terrace
McDonald, John And Ellen	Hope
McGrath, Lorraine	Kelowna
McIntyre, Joan	West Vancouver
McKimmon, Lloyd	Deroche
McMorran, Bruce	Manson Landing
Michalos, Alex	Prince George
O'dea, Robert	Vancouver
Ortis, Larry	Hope
Peddemors, Stewart	White Rock
Pellat, Robert	West Vancouver
Perrino, Janice	Summerland
Phillip, Collin	Vancouver
Phillips, Stephen	Vancouver
Piket, Maatje	Prince Rupert
Piver, Andre	Nelson
Pleadwell, Donna	Hope
Poturica, Zach	Osoyoos
Pranger, Sylvia	Agassiz
Pratt, Roger	Nelson
Quinn, Stephen	Kamloops
Reimers, Mia	Terrace
Reynolds, Gil	Abbotsford
Rille, Marianna	Abbotsford
Ruff, Norman	Victoria
Ruley, Gordon	Mission
Rykes, Petrus	Anahim Lake
Sather, Michael	Maple Ridge
Scheitel, Terry	Merritt
Scott, Rachel T.	Vancouver
Sebastian, Troy	Cranbrook
Segsworth, Walter	West Vancouver
Simpson, Mike	Williams Lake
Slater, John	Osoyoos
Smith, Stephen	Prince Rupert
Strachan, Bruce	Prince George
Swan, Gordon	Merritt
Taylor, Robert	Mission
Tritschler, John	Hope
Viking, Nero	West Vancouver
Vipond, David	Surrey
Walker, George	Cobble Hill
Wautier, Dean	White Rock
Wendling, Gilles	Nanaimo
Wright, Clarke	Vancouver
Wyman, Max	Lions Bay

Written Submissions (Organizations) as of May 31, 2007

Name of Submitters	**City**
Area G of Okanagan/Similkameen Regional District	Penticton
City of Burnaby	Burnaby
City of Coquitlam,	Coquitlam
City of North Vancouver	North Vancouver
City of Prince Rupert	Prince Rupert
City of Quesnel	Quesnel
Corporation of the Village of Keremeos	Keremeos
Council of the District of Kitimat	Kitimat
District of Hope	Hope
District of Mission	Mission
District of Port Edward	Port Edward
District of Stewart	Stewart
Elections BC	Victoria
Fair Voting BC	Victoria
High Bar First Nation	Clinton
Prince George Chamber of Commerce	Prince George
Provincial North Coast New Democrats	Prince Rupert
Regional District of Central Kootenay	Nelson
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine	Terrace
School District 78 Fraser-Cascade	Hope
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District	Pemberton
Surrey, Cloverdale, White Rock Chamber of Commerce	Surrey
Town of Smithers	Smithers
Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society	Vancouver
Village of Hazelton	Hazelton
Village of Pemberton	Pemberton

Appendix L

Current Electoral Districts – Sorted Regionally

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
THE NORTH						
North Coast	131,534	31,678	-32.8	25,425	-51.2	-19.7
Skeena	25,213	34,211	-27.4	29,256	-43.8	-14.5
Bulkley Valley–Stikine	195,817	32,175	-31.8	30,648	-41.1	-4.7
Prince George–Omineca	43,665	38,759	-17.8	36,905	-29.1	-4.8
Prince George North	28,749	38,431	-18.5	35,000	-32.8	-8.9
Prince George–Mount Robson	57,031	38,581	-18.2	34,968	-32.8	-9.4
Peace River South	33,525	30,946	-34.4	28,832	-44.6	-6.8
Peace River North	158,382	31,011	-34.2	35,162	-32.5	13.4
CARIBOO–THOMPSON						
Cariboo North	35,229	37,505	-20.4	34,253	-34.2	-8.7
Cariboo South	59,995	36,451	-22.7	34,979	-32.8	-4.0
Yale-Lillooet	31,734	38,289	-18.8	37,515	-28.0	-2.0
Kamloops	2,947	48,325	2.5	51,618	-0.9	6.8
Kamloops–North Thompson	22,070	47,728	1.2	48,962	-6.0	2.6
OKANAGAN						
Shuswap	8,092	48,389	2.6	51,717	-0.7	6.9
Okanagan-Vernon	5,601	55,359	17.4	60,881	16.9	10.0
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,374	51,304	8.8	61,461	18.0	19.8
Kelowna-Mission	328	52,483	11.3	60,753	16.7	15.8
Okanagan-Westside	2,103	43,774	-7.2	51,293	-1.5	17.2
Penticton–Okanagan Valley	2,612	55,735	18.2	58,518	12.4	5.0

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
COLUMBIA-KOOTENAY						
Columbia River–Revelstoke	39,391	34,056	-27.8	32,791	-37.0	-3.7
East Kootenay	11,210	38,222	-18.9	37,440	-28.1	–2.0
Nelson-Creston	22,468	45,101	-4.3	43,545	-16.4	–3.5
West Kootenay–Boundary	10,113	45,967	-2.5	43,178	-17.1	–6.1
FRASER VALLEY						
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	124	52,016	10.3	56,826	9.1	9.2
Maple Ridge–Mission	3,650	53,277	13.0	68,143	30.9	27.9
Langley	95	50,797	7.7	58,808	12.9	15.8
Fort Langley–Aldergrove	233	52,439	11.2	59,050	13.4	12.6
Abbotsford–Mount Lehman	163	48,464	2.8	58,243	11.9	20.2
Abbotsford-Clayburn	89	42,909	-9.0	47,512	-8.8	10.7
Chilliwack-Sumas	276	43,347	-8.1	51,634	-0.8	19.1
Chilliwack-Kent	1,559	43,839	-7.0	51,189	-1.7	16.8
TRI-CITIES						
Port Moody–Westwood	91	49,512	5.0	68,000	30.6	37.3
Coquitlam-Maillardville	32	49,433	4.9	49,987	-4.0	1.1
Port Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	1,142	50,410	6.9	56,960	9.4	13.0
Burquitlam	8	21,448	8.8	22,331	2.5	4.1
SURREY						
Surrey-Whalley	29	47,270	0.3	49,908	-4.2	5.6
Surrey–Green Timbers	17	49,804	5.6	56,425	8.4	13.3
Surrey-Tynehead	74	47,540	0.8	66,860	28.4	40.6
Surrey-Newton	21	43,199	-8.4	58,869	13.1	36.3
Surrey–Panorama Ridge	37	43,617	-7.5	64,890	24.6	48.8
Surrey-Cloverdale	144	41,223	-12.6	62,913	20.8	52.6
Surrey–White Rock	66	49,402	4.8	54,120	3.9	9.6

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
RICHMOND AND DELTA						
Richmond Centre	256	46,286	-1.8	59,166	13.6	27.8
Richmond-Steveston	66	51,073	8.3	55,285	6.2	8.2
Richmond East	96	51,508	9.3	60,010	15.2	16.5
Delta South	463	44,682	-5.2	45,774	-12.1	2.4
Delta North	32	51,248	8.7	51,628	-0.8	0.7
BURNABY-NEW WESTMINSTER						
Burnaby North	28	51,263	8.7	54,967	5.6	7.2
Burnaby-Willingdon	16	48,449	2.8	54,519	4.7	12.5
Burnaby-Edmonds	25	49,897	5.8	62,266	19.6	24.8
Burquitlam	29	29,834	8.8	31,062	2.5	4.1
New Westminster	18	49,350	4.7	58,534	12.4	18.6
VANCOUVER						
Vancouver-Hastings	14	53,587	13.7	54,724	5.1	2.1
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	52,482	11.3	60,765	16.7	15.8
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	50,318	6.7	56,124	7.8	11.5
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	13	51,961	10.2	55,009	5.6	5.9
Vancouver-Kensington	9	51,593	9.4	54,826	5.3	6.3
Vancouver-Burrard	158	52,996	12.4	79,529	52.7	50.1
Vancouver-Fairview	10	51,961	10.2	56,256	8.0	8.3
Vancouver-Langara	16	51,847	10.0	56,982	9.4	9.9
Vancouver–Point Grey	125	52,115	10.5	59,619	14.5	14.4
Vancouver-Quilchena	22	53,373	13.2	56,409	8.3	5.7
NORTH SHORE						
North Vancouver–Seymour	344	53,167	12.8	55,834	7.2	5.0
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	25	45,760	-2.9	50,808	-2.4	11.0
West Vancouver–Capilano	190	48,075	2.0	47,506	-8.8	-1.2
West Vancouver–Garibaldi	11,999	47,604	1.0	56,015	7.6	17.7

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND SOUTH COAST						
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	63,462	44,901	-4.8	47,525	-8.7	5.8
North Island	29,091	57,051	21.0	53,348	2.5	-6.5
Comox Valley	2,461	54,912	16.5	59,482	14.2	8.3
Alberni-Qualicum	13,387	50,789	7.7	52,778	1.4	3.9
Nanaimo-Parksville	1,216	51,841	10.0	61,297	17.7	18.2
Nanaimo	1,882	51,447	9.1	55,783	7.1	8.4
Cowichan-Ladysmith	2,106	50,641	7.4	54,394	4.5	7.4
Malahat–Juan de Fuca	2,982	47,168	0.0	56,568	8.6	19.9
Saanich North and the Islands	1,479	50,856	7.9	55,201	6.0	8.5
Saanich South	137	47,965	1.7	52,275	0.4	9.0
Oak Bay–Gordon Head	346	47,714	1.2	48,847	-6.2	2.4
Victoria–Beacon Hill	94	49,479	4.9	52,498	0.8	6.1
Victoria-Hillside	17	47,991	1.8	51,029	-2.0	6.3
Esquimalt-Metchosin	345	46,890	-0.5	51,077	-1.9	8.9
BC Total		3,724,500		4,113,487		10.4

Notes:

* *Electoral district areas determined by Elections BC map production staff.*

# *The 1996 population is taken from the Wood Commission report, which includes "block face" data where it was available. Clarification on block face data is available from BC Stats at http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/cen96/ped96new/notes.asp and http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/cen96/ped96new/Table1.pdf. Further information is also available in the Wood Commission:* ***Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia****, December 3, 1998, page 11. The 2006 population is based on "enumeration area" data that is reviewed in the BC Stats notes.*

** *Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

@ *The Burquitlam electoral district includes people from the Coquitlam (22,331) and Burnaby (31,062) municipalities (2006 census). The population for Burquitlam has been apportioned between the two, so the regional populations are correctly stated. The figures for 1996 are determined with the 2006 ratios for the two portions. The deviation and population change are based on the total Burquitlam electoral district population.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix M

Current Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
Abbotsford-Clayburn	89	42,909	-9.0	47,512	-8.8	10.7
Abbotsford–Mount Lehman	163	48,464	2.8	58,243	11.9	20.2
Alberni-Qualicum	13,387	50,789	7.7	52,778	1.4	3.9
Bulkley Valley–Stikine	195,817	32,175	-31.8	30,648	-41.1	-4.7
Burnaby North	28	49,897	5.8	54,967	5.6	24.8
Burnaby-Edmonds	25	51,263	8.7	62,266	19.6	7.2
Burnaby-Willingdon	16	48,449	2.8	54,519	4.7	12.5
Burquitlam	37	51,282	8.8	53,393	2.5	4.1
Cariboo North	35,229	37,505	-20.4	34,253	-34.2	-8.7
Cariboo South	59,995	36,451	-22.7	34,979	-32.8	-4.0
Chilliwack-Kent	1,559	43,839	-7.0	51,189	-1.7	16.8
Chilliwack-Sumas	276	43,347	-8.1	51,634	-0.8	19.1
Columbia River–Revelstoke	39,391	34,056	-27.8	32,791	-37.0	-3.7
Comox Valley	2,461	54,912	16.5	59,482	14.2	8.3
Coquitlam-Maillardville	32	49,433	4.9	49,987	-4.0	1.1
Cowichan-Ladysmith	2,106	50,641	7.4	54,394	4.5	7.4
Delta North	32	51,248	8.7	51,628	-0.8	0.7
Delta South	463	44,682	-5.2	45,774	-12.1	2.4
East Kootenay	11,210	38,222	-18.9	37,440	-28.1	-2.0
Esquimalt-Metchosin	345	46,890	-0.5	51,077	-1.9	8.9
Fort Langley–Aldergrove	233	52,439	11.2	59,050	13.4	12.6
Kamloops	2,947	48,325	2.5	51,618	-0.9	6.8
Kamloops–North Thompson	22,070	47,728	1.2	48,962	-6.0	2.6
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,374	51,304	8.8	61,461	18.0	19.8
Kelowna-Mission	328	52,483	11.3	60,753	16.7	15.8
Langley	95	50,797	7.7	58,808	12.9	15.8
Malahat–Juan de Fuca	2,982	47,168	0.0	56,568	8.6	19.9
Maple Ridge–Mission	3,650	53,277	13.0	68,143	30.9	27.9

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	124	52,016	10.3	56,826	9.1	9.2
Nanaimo	1,882	51,447	9.1	55,783	7.1	8.4
Nanaimo-Parksville	1,216	51,841	10.0	61,297	17.7	18.2
Nelson-Creston	22,468	45,101	-4.3	43,545	-16.4	-3.5
New Westminster	18	49,350	4.7	58,534	12.4	18.6
North Coast	131,534	31,678	-32.8	25,425	-51.2	-19.7
North Island	29,091	57,051	21.0	53,348	2.5	-6.5
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	25	45,760	-2.9	50,808	-2.4	11.0
North Vancouver–Seymour	344	53,167	12.8	55,834	7.2	5.0
Oak Bay–Gordon Head	346	47,714	1.2	48,847	-6.2	2.4
Okanagan-Vernon	5,601	55,359	17.4	60,881	16.9	10.0
Okanagan-Westside	2,103	43,774	-7.2	51,293	-1.5	17.2
Peace River North	158,382	31,011	-34.2	35,162	-32.5	13.4
Peace River South	33,525	30,946	-34.4	28,832	-44.6	-6.8
Penticton–Okanagan Valley	2,612	55,735	18.2	58,518	12.4	5.0
Port Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	1,142	50,410	6.9	56,960	9.4	13.0
Port Moody–Westwood	91	49,512	5.0	68,000	30.6	37.3
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	63,462	44,901	-4.8	47,525	-8.7	5.8
Prince George North	28,749	38,581	-18.2	35,000	-32.8	-9.4
Prince George–Mount Robson	57,031	38,431	-18.5	34,968	-32.8	-8.9
Prince George–Omineca	43,665	38,759	-17.8	36,905	-29.1	-4.8
Richmond Centre	256	46,286	-1.8	59,166	13.6	27.8
Richmond East	96	51,508	9.3	60,010	15.2	16.5
Richmond-Steveston	66	51,073	8.3	55,285	6.2	8.2
Saanich North and the Islands	1,479	50,856	7.9	55,201	6.0	8.5
Saanich South	137	47,965	1.7	52,275	0.4	9.0
Shuswap	8,092	48,389	2.6	51,717	-0.7	6.9
Skeena	25,213	34,211	-27.4	29,256	-43.8	-14.5
Surrey-Cloverdale	144	41,223	-12.6	62,913	20.8	52.6
Surrey–Green Timbers	17	49,804	5.6	56,425	8.4	13.3
Surrey-Newton	21	43,199	-8.4	58,869	13.1	36.3
Surrey–Panorama Ridge	37	43,617	-7.5	64,890	24.6	48.8
Surrey-Tynehead	74	47,540	0.8	66,860	28.4	40.6
Surrey-Whalley	29	47,270	0.3	49,908	-4.2	5.6

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
Surrey–White Rock	66	49,402	4.8	54,120	3.9	9.6
Vancouver-Burrard	158	52,996	12.4	79,529	52.7	50.1
Vancouver-Fairview	10	51,961	10.2	56,256	8.0	8.3
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	50,318	6.7	56,124	7.8	11.5
Vancouver-Hastings	14	53,587	13.7	54,724	5.1	2.1
Vancouver-Kensington	9	51,593	9.4	54,826	5.3	6.3
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	52,482	11.3	60,765	16.7	15.8
Vancouver-Langara	16	51,847	10.0	56,982	9.4	9.9
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	13	51,961	10.2	55,009	5.6	5.9
Vancouver–Point Grey	125	52,115	10.5	59,619	14.5	14.4
Vancouver-Quilchena	22	53,373	13.2	56,409	8.3	5.7
Victoria–Beacon Hill	94	49,479	4.9	52,498	0.8	6.1
Victoria-Hillside	17	47,991	1.8	51,029	-2.0	6.3
West Kootenay–Boundary	10,113	45,967	-2.5	43,178	-17.1	-6.1
West Vancouver–Capilano	190	48,075	2.0	47,506	-8.8	-1.2
West Vancouver–Garibaldi	11,999	47,604	1.0	56,015	7.6	17.7
Yale-Lillooet	31,734	38,289	-18.8	37,515	-28.0	-2.0
BC Total		3,724,500		4,113,487		10.4

Notes:

* *Electoral district areas determined by Elections BC map production staff.*

# *The 1996 population is taken from the Wood Commission report, which includes "block face" data where it was available. Clarification on block face data is available from BC Stats at http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/cen96/ped96new/notes.asp and http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/cen96/ped96new/Table1.pdf. Further information is also available in the Wood Commission:* ***Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia****, December 3, 1998, page 11. The 2006 population is based on "enumeration area" data that is reviewed in the BC Stats notes.*

** *Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix N

Current Electoral Districts – Sorted by Ascending 2006 Population

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
North Coast	131,534	31,678	-32.8	25,425	-51.2	-19.7
Peace River South	33,525	30,946	-34.4	28,832	-44.6	-6.8
Skeena	25,213	34,211	-27.4	29,256	-43.8	-14.5
Bulkley Valley–Stikine	195,817	32,175	-31.8	30,648	-41.1	-4.7
Columbia River–Revelstoke	39,391	34,056	-27.8	32,791	-37.0	-3.7
Cariboo North	35,229	37,505	-20.4	34,253	-34.2	-8.7
Prince George–Mount Robson	57,031	38,581	-15.8	34,968	-32.8	-9.4
Cariboo South	59,995	36,451	-22.7	34,979	-32.8	-4.0
Prince George North	28,749	38,431	-17.9	35,000	-32.8	-8.9
Peace River North	158,382	31,011	-34.2	35,162	-32.5	13.4
Prince George–Omineca	43,665	38,759	-20.7	36,905	-29.1	-4.8
East Kootenay	11,210	38,222	-18.9	37,440	-28.1	-2.0
Yale-Lillooet	31,734	38,289	-18.8	37,515	-28.0	-2.0
West Kootenay–Boundary	10,113	45,967	-2.5	43,178	-17.1	-6.1
Nelson-Creston	22,468	45,101	-4.3	43,545	-16.4	-3.5
Delta South	463	44,682	-5.2	45,774	-12.1	2.4
West Vancouver–Capilano	190	48,075	2.2	47,506	-8.8	-1.2
Abbotsford-Clayburn	89	42,909	-9.7	47,512	-8.8	10.7
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	63,462	44,901	-4.8	47,525	-8.7	5.8
Oak Bay–Gordon Head	346	47,714	1.8	48,847	-6.2	2.4
Kamloops–North Thompson	22,070	47,728	1.9	48,962	-6.0	2.6
Surrey-Whalley	29	47,270	1.3	49,908	-4.2	5.6
Coquitlam–Maillardville	32	49,433	6.2	49,987	-4.0	1.1
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	25	45,760	-1.7	50,808	-2.4	11.0
Victoria-Hillside	17	47,991	0.5	51,029	-2.0	6.3
Esquimalt-Metchosin	345	46,890	-0.9	51,077	-1.9	8.9
Chilliwack-Kent	1,559	43,839	-8.1	51,189	-1.7	16.8

Electoral District	Area*	1996		2006		% Population
	(sq. km.)	Population	Deviation (%)**	Population	Deviation (%)**	Change 1996–2006
Okanagan-Westside	2,103	43,774	-7.2	51,293	-1.5	17.2
Kamloops	2,947	48,325	1.9	51,618	-0.9	6.8
Delta North	32	51,248	8.7	51,628	-0.8	0.7
Chilliwack-Sumas	276	43,347	-6.2	51,634	-0.8	19.1
Shuswap	8,092	48,389	2.6	51,717	-0.7	6.9
Saanich South	137	47,965	1.9	52,275	0.4	9.0
Victoria–Beacon Hill	94	49,479	5.5	52,498	0.8	6.1
Alberni-Qualicum	13,387	50,789	7.7	52,778	1.4	3.9
North Island	29,091	57,051	21.0	53,348	2.5	-6.5
Burquitlam	37	51,282	7.9	53,393	2.5	4.1
Surrey–White Rock	66	49,402	2.9	54,120	3.9	9.6
Cowichan-Ladysmith	2,106	50,641	7.4	54,394	4.5	7.4
Burnaby-Willingdon	16	48,449	2.3	54,519	4.7	12.5
Vancouver-Hastings	14	53,587	14.6	54,724	5.1	2.1
Vancouver-Kensington	9	51,593	11.0	54,826	5.3	6.3
Burnaby North	28	51,263	10.4	54,967	5.6	7.2
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	13	51,961	13.1	55,009	5.6	5.9
Saanich North and the Islands	1,479	50,856	7.9	55,201	6.0	8.5
Richmond-Steveston	66	51,073	8.7	55,285	6.2	8.2
Nanaimo	1,882	51,447	9.1	55,783	7.1	8.4
North Vancouver–Seymour	344	53,167	11.2	55,834	7.2	5.0
West Vancouver–Garibaldi	11,999	47,604	1.1	56,015	7.6	17.7
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	50,318	5.4	56,124	7.8	11.5
Vancouver-Fairview	10	51,961	9.8	56,256	8.0	8.3
Vancouver-Quilchena	22	53,373	14.7	56,409	8.3	5.7
Surrey–Green Timbers	17	49,804	4.6	56,425	8.4	13.3
Malahat–Juan de Fuca	2,982	47,168	0.4	56,568	8.6	19.9
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	124	52,016	10.0	56,826	9.1	9.2
Port Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	1,142	50,410	6.9	56,960	9.4	13.0
Vancouver-Langara	16	51,847	8.7	56,982	9.4	9.9
Abbotsford–Mount Lehman	163	48,464	2.8	58,243	11.9	20.2
Penticton–Okanagan Valley	2,612	55,735	18.2	58,518	12.4	5.0
New Westminster	18	49,350	4.7	58,534	12.4	18.6

Electoral District	Area* (sq. km.)	1996		2006		% Population Change 1996–2006
		Population	Deviation (%)**	Population§	Deviation (%)**	
Langley	95	50,797	7.2	58,808	12.9	15.8
Surrey-Newton	21	43,199	-8.4	58,869	13.1	36.3
Fort Langley–Aldergrove	233	52,439	11.8	59,050	13.4	12.6
Richmond Centre	256	46,286	0.1	59,166	13.6	27.8
Comox Valley	2,461	54,912	16.5	59,482	14.2	8.3
Vancouver–Point Grey	125	52,115	11.5	59,619	14.5	14.4
Richmond East	96	51,508	6.9	60,010	15.2	16.5
Kelowna-Mission	328	52,483	11.6	60,753	16.7	15.8
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	52,482	6.7	60,765	16.7	15.8
Okanagan-Vernon	5,601	55,359	17.4	60,881	16.9	10.0
Nanaimo-Parksville	1,216	51,841	10.0	61,297	17.7	18.2
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,374	51,304	8.5	61,461	18.0	19.8
Burnaby-Edmonds	25	49,897	5.6	62,266	19.6	24.8
Surrey-Cloverdale	144	41,223	-11.1	62,913	20.8	52.6
Surrey–Panorama Ridge	37	43,617	-7.6	64,890	24.6	48.8
Surrey-Tynehead	74	47,540	1.4	66,860	28.4	40.6
Port Moody–Westwood	91	49,512	3.7	68,000	30.6	37.3
Maple Ridge–Mission	3,650	53,277	13.3	68,143	30.9	27.9
Vancouver-Burrard	158	52,996	12.1	79,529	52.7	50.1
BC Total		3,724,500		4,113,487		10.4

Notes:

* *Electoral district areas determined by Elections BC map production staff.*

§ *The 1996 population is taken from the Wood Commission report, which includes "block face" data where it was available. Clarification on block face data is available from BC Stats at http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/cen96/ped96new/notes.asp and http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/cen96/ped96new/Table1.pdf. Further information is also available in the Wood Commission:* ***Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia****, December 3, 1998, page 11. The 2006 population is based on "enumeration area" data that is reviewed in the BC Stats notes.*

** *Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix O

1991–2013 Census Counts and Projections – Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted Regionally

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Projection		2013 Projection		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
THE NORTH										
North Coast	28,109	29,029	25,769	23,135	-54.4	22,279	-57.6	21,119	-61.8	-8.7
Skeena-Stikine	41,591	43,929	41,078	38,199	-24.8	37,781	-28.1	37,212	-32.7	-2.6
Bulkley-Nechako	38,343	41,642	40,856	38,243	-24.7	38,926	-26.0	40,063	-27.6	4.8
Prince George	50,426	54,174	51,709	50,893	0.2	51,415	-2.2	52,185	-5.7	2.5
Fraser–Fort George	40,313	44,800	43,608	41,371	-18.5	42,529	-19.1	43,678	-21.0	5.6
Peace River	38,629	39,164	38,694	41,157	-19.0	40,771	-22.4	41,242	-25.4	0.2
Northland	21,483	23,936	22,925	23,881	-53.0	24,107	-54.1	24,710	-55.3	3.5
CARIBOO-THOMPSON										
Cariboo-Chilcotin	45,939	48,701	48,366	45,104	-11.2	45,530	-13.4	45,945	-16.9	1.9
Cariboo-Fraser	39,179	44,455	42,687	42,170	-17.0	42,912	-18.4	43,964	-20.5	4.3
Kamloops–South Thompson	39,512	47,234	49,247	51,812	2.0	54,318	3.3	57,909	4.7	11.8
Kamloops–North Thompson	45,629	49,964	49,349	50,042	-1.5	50,749	-3.5	52,113	-5.8	4.1
OKANAGAN										
Shuswap	40,675	49,582	50,784	53,658	5.7	56,263	7.0	59,980	8.4	11.8
Vernon-Monashee	47,137	53,832	55,043	58,538	15.3	60,404	14.9	63,549	14.9	8.6
Kelowna–Lake Country	32,292	42,626	46,832	51,968	2.3	55,899	6.3	61,421	11.0	18.2
Kelowna-Mission	40,170	45,051	48,062	53,231	4.8	55,094	4.8	58,535	5.8	10.0
Kelowna-Westside	35,634	43,926	47,914	51,850	2.1	55,106	4.8	59,758	8.0	15.3
Penticton	44,529	51,483	51,704	53,777	5.9	55,492	5.6	58,155	5.1	8.1
Boundary-Similkameen	36,813	41,786	42,086	43,052	-15.2	44,292	-15.7	46,189	-16.5	7.3

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Projection		2013 Projection		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
COLUMBIA KOOTENAY										
Kootenay East	39,109	41,122	40,649	39,951	-21.3	40,096	-23.7	40,574	-26.6	1.6
Kootenay South	46,646	52,694	51,329	50,851	0.1	51,879	-1.3	53,342	-3.6	4.9
Kootenay West	53,210	57,132	56,231	54,025	6.4	54,540	3.8	55,286	0.0	2.3
FRASER VALLEY										
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	4,1419	47,328	49,093	50,474	-0.6	52,376	-0.4	55,157	-0.3	9.3
Maple Ridge–Mission	31,852	37,451	43,921	50,193	-1.2	53,335	1.5	58,358	5.5	16.3
Mission-Clayburn	36,258	45,263	47,640	52,874	4.1	55,827	6.2	60,314	9.0	14.1
Langley West	41,980	46,633	47,963	53,231	4.8	54,510	3.7	57,303	3.6	7.6
Langley East	33,328	44,294	49,745	50,805	0.0	55,402	5.4	60,985	10.3	20.0
Abbotsford-Aldergrove	30,058	37,761	46,640	50,965	0.4	55,524	5.6	61,772	11.7	21.2
Abbotsford Centre	46,137	50,991	51,560	52,495	3.4	53,697	2.1	55,678	0.7	6.1
Abbotsford-Chilliwack	39,244	44,979	46,793	49,863	-1.8	51,698	-1.7	54,676	-1.1	9.7
Chilliwack-Hope	32,068	40,729	43,299	48,807	-3.9	51,742	-1.6	56,217	1.6	15.2
TRI-CITIES										
Port Moody–Coquitlam	38,950	43,523	47,248	51,539	1.5	53,555	1.9	57,026	3.1	10.6
Coquitlam-Maillardville	42,361	45,863	47,344	46,315	-8.8	47,468	-9.7	49,064	-11.3	5.9
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	21,138	34,953	44,180	46,732	-8.0	53,368	1.5	61,347	10.9	31.3
Port Coquitlam	37,482	46,682	51,262	52,692	3.8	56,452	7.4	61,245	10.7	16.2
SURREY										
Surrey-Whalley	43,472	53,591	49,600	51,283	1.0	52,544	0.0	54,173	-2.1	5.6
Surrey-Guildford	33,694	42,466	48,716	51,801	2.0	55,714	6.0	60,669	9.7	17.1
Surrey–Green Timbers	33,301	40,402	46,815	51,142	0.7	54,570	3.8	59,255	7.1	15.9
Surrey-Fleetwood	24,758	34,961	44,431	51,985	2.4	57,225	8.9	64,337	16.3	23.8
Surrey-Newton	26,203	36,351	45,010	53,711	5.8	58,645	11.6	65,609	18.6	22.2
Surrey-Panorama	27,392	34,879	42,429	52,060	2.5	55,836	6.2	61,756	11.7	18.6
Surrey-Cloverdale	29,767	32,812	39,257	50,875	0.2	52,917	0.7	57,402	3.8	12.8
Surrey–White Rock	43,280	46,593	50,103	51,128	0.7	52,570	0.0	54,661	-1.2	6.9

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Projection		2013 Projection		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
RICHMOND AND DELTA										
Richmond Centre	36,480	45,133	53,118	55,942	10.2	60,511	15.1	66,541	20.3	18.9
Richmond-Steveston	50,599	55,803	58,348	60,721	19.6	62,532	19.0	65,542	18.5	7.9
Richmond East	39,545	47,931	52,879	57,798	13.8	61,303	16.6	66,478	20.2	15.0
Delta South	40,528	44,684	45,316	45,774	-9.9	46,682	-11.2	47,980	-13.3	4.8
Delta North	48,906	51,246	52,113	51,628	1.7	51,992	-1.1	52,668	-4.8	2.0
BURNABY AND NEW WESTMINSTER										
Burnaby-Brentwood	43,858	48,077	48,550	51,274	1.0	51,941	-1.2	53,495	-3.3	4.3
Burnaby-Lougheed	43,484	47,304	50,050	50,229	-1.1	51,524	-2.0	53,399	-3.5	6.3
Burnaby-Willingdon	37,521	44,041	49,957	50,957	0.3	54,018	2.8	57,905	4.7	13.6
Burnaby-Edmonds	33,995	39,787	45,518	50,339	-0.9	53,053	0.9	57,186	3.4	13.6
New Westminster	43,585	49,350	54,535	58,549	15.3	61,922	17.8	67,084	21.3	14.6
VANCOUVER										
Vancouver-Hastings	52,949	55,035	56,125	55,595	9.5	55,430	5.4	55,256	-0.1	-0.6
Vancouver-Kingsway	41,281	47,190	52,853	57,185	12.6	59,439	13.1	62,517	13.0	9.3
Vancouver-Fraserview	45,597	51,167	54,032	57,276	12.8	58,605	11.5	60,504	9.4	5.6
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	49,164	52,188	52,592	52,628	3.6	52,595	0.1	52,596	-4.9	-0.1
Vancouver-Kensington	49,315	51,923	54,005	54,967	8.2	55,244	5.1	55,764	0.8	1.5
Vancouver–West End	37,110	39,776	42,345	48,725	-4.1	49,188	-6.4	50,738	-8.3	4.1
Vancouver–False Creek	17,340	24,312	33,285	43,568	-14.2	47,306	-10.0	52,858	-4.4	21.3
Vancouver-Fairview	43,894	47,004	50,904	52,020	2.4	53,055	0.9	54,403	-1.6	4.6
Vancouver-Langara	46,743	51,270	53,881	57,047	12.3	57,986	10.3	59,493	7.6	4.3
Vancouver–Point Grey	42,808	48,287	50,653	54,823	8.0	56,007	6.5	57,885	4.7	5.6
Vancouver-Quilchena	51,547	54,081	54,117	56,409	11.1	55,993	6.5	55,961	1.2	-0.8
NORTH SHORE										
North Vancouver–Seymour	47,893	50,409	51,883	52,164	2.7	52,931	0.7	54,424	-1.6	4.3
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	44,015	50,007	53,422	54,600	7.5	56,998	8.4	60,370	9.1	10.6
West Vancouver–Capilano	50,202	52,292	53,462	54,238	6.8	54,752	4.2	56,083	1.4	3.4
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	35,235	41,917	46,105	49,161	-3.2	52,018	-1.0	56,118	1.5	14.2

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Projection		2013 Projection		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND SOUTH COAST										
North Island	52,023	57,258	53,863	53,654	5.7	53,782	2.3	54,328	-1.8	1.3
Comox Valley	41,232	51,825	51,545	55,543	9.4	58,182	10.7	62,056	12.2	11.7
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	39,009	44,568	45,062	47,109	-7.2	48,533	-7.7	50,841	-8.1	7.9
Central Island	41,770	44,368	43,918	46,214	-9.0	46,434	-11.7	47,535	-14.1	2.9
Parksville-Qualicum	33,454	43,817	48,440	53,318	5.0	57,378	9.2	63,024	13.9	18.2
Nanaimo	47,205	51,333	51,008	53,940	6.2	54,593	3.9	56,319	1.8	4.4
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	41,105	48,993	49,071	52,695	3.8	54,635	3.9	57,746	4.4	9.6
Cowichan-Goldstream	37,799	45,611	49,964	54,946	8.2	58,116	10.6	62,906	13.7	14.5
Saanich North and the Islands	46,400	50,856	52,671	55,201	8.7	56,603	7.7	59,132	6.9	7.1
Saanich West	46,370	52,140	53,494	56,548	11.4	58,196	10.7	61,041	10.4	7.9
Saanich East	49,578	49,573	50,207	51,880	2.2	51,584	-1.9	52,202	-5.6	0.6
Victoria–Oak Bay	55,618	55,190	56,272	57,571	13.4	57,237	8.9	57,849	4.6	0.5
Victoria-Esquimalt	51,340	54,171	53,942	57,133	12.5	57,379	9.2	58,788	6.3	2.9
Juan de Fuca	46,054	49,816	50,262	56,240	10.7	56,933	8.3	59,250	7.1	5.4
BC Total	3,282,061	3,724,500	3,907,738	4,113,487	-	4,257,965	-	4,380,198		8.9

Notes:

* *Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix P

1991–2013 Census Counts And Projections – Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Project		2013 Project		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
Abbotsford Centre	46,137	50,991	51,560	52,495	3.4	53,697	2.1	55,678	0.7	6.1
Abbotsford-Aldergrove	30,058	37,761	46,640	50,965	0.4	55,524	5.6	61,772	11.7	21.2
Abbotsford-Chilliwack	39,244	44,979	46,793	49,863	-1.8	51,698	-1.7	54,676	-1.1	9.7
Boundary-Similkameen	36,813	41,786	42,086	43,052	-15.2	44,292	-15.7	46,189	-16.5	7.3
Bulkley-Nechako	38,343	41,642	40,856	38,243	-24.7	38,926	-26.0	40,063	-27.6	4.8
Burnaby-Brentwood	43,858	48,077	48,550	51,274	1.0	51,941	-1.2	53,495	-3.3	4.3
Burnaby-Edmonds	33,995	39,787	45,518	50,339	-0.9	53,053	0.9	57,186	3.4	13.6
Burnaby-Lougheed	43,484	47,304	50,050	50,229	-1.1	51,524	-2.0	53,399	-3.5	6.3
Burnaby-Willingdon	37,521	44,041	49,957	50,957	0.3	54,018	2.8	57,905	4.7	13.6
Cariboo-Chilcotin	45,939	48,701	48,366	45,104	-11.2	45,530	-13.4	45,945	-16.9	1.9
Cariboo-Fraser	39,179	44,455	42,687	42,170	-17.0	42,912	-18.4	43,964	-20.5	4.3
Central Island	41,770	44,368	43,918	46,214	-9.0	46,434	-11.7	47,535	-14.1	2.9
Chilliwack-Hope	32,068	40,729	43,299	48,807	-3.9	51,742	-1.6	56,217	1.6	15.2
Comox Valley	41,232	51,825	51,545	55,543	9.4	58,182	10.7	62,056	12.2	11.7
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	21,138	34,953	44,180	46,732	-8.0	53,368	1.5	61,347	10.9	31.3
Coquitlam-Maillardville	42,361	45,863	47,344	46,315	-8.8	47,468	-9.7	49,064	-11.3	5.9
Cowichan-Goldstream	37,799	45,611	49,964	54,946	8.2	58,116	10.6	62,906	13.7	14.5
Delta North	48,906	51,246	52,113	51,628	1.7	51,992	-1.1	52,668	-4.8	2.0
Delta South	40,528	44,684	45,316	45,774	-9.9	46,682	-11.2	47,980	-13.3	4.8
Fraser–Fort George	40,313	44,800	43,608	41,371	-18.5	42,529	-19.1	43,678	-21.0	5.6
Juan de Fuca	46,054	49,816	50,262	56,240	10.7	56,933	8.3	59,250	7.1	5.4
Kamloops–North Thompson	45,629	49,964	49,349	50,042	-1.5	50,749	-3.5	52,113	-5.8	4.1
Kamloops–South Thompson	39,512	47,234	49,247	51,812	2.0	54,318	3.3	57,909	4.7	11.8
Kelowna–Lake Country	32,292	42,626	46,832	51,968	2.3	55,899	6.3	61,421	11.0	18.2
Kelowna-Mission	40,170	45,051	48,062	53,231	4.8	55,094	4.8	58,535	5.8	10.0
Kelowna-Westside	35,634	43,926	47,914	51,850	2.1	55,106	4.8	59,758	8.0	15.3
Kootenay East	39,109	41,122	40,649	39,951	-21.3	40,096	-23.7	40,574	-26.6	1.6

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Projection		2013 Projection		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
Kootenay South	46,646	52,694	51,329	50,851	0.1	51,879	-1.3	53,342	-3.6	4.9
Kootenay West	53,210	57,132	56,231	54,025	6.4	54,540	3.8	55,286	0.0	2.3
Langley East	33,328	44,294	49,745	50,805	0.0	55,402	5.4	60,985	10.3	20.0
Langley West	41,980	46,633	47,963	53,231	4.8	54,510	3.7	57,303	3.6	7.6
Maple Ridge–Mission	31,852	37,451	43,921	50,193	-1.2	53,335	1.5	58,358	5.5	16.3
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	41,419	47,328	49,093	50,474	-0.6	52,376	-0.4	55,157	-0.3	9.3
Mission-Clayburn	36,258	45,263	47,640	52,874	4.1	55,827	6.2	60,314	9.0	14.1
Nanaimo	47,205	51,333	51,008	53,940	6.2	54,593	3.9	56,319	1.8	4.4
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	41,105	48,993	49,071	52,695	3.8	54,635	3.9	57,746	4.4	9.6
New Westminster	43,585	49,350	54,535	58,549	15.3	61,922	17.8	67,084	21.3	14.6
North Coast	28,109	29,029	25,769	23,135	-54.4	22,279	-57.6	21,119	-61.8	-8.7
North Island	52,023	57,258	53,863	53,654	5.7	53,782	2.3	54,328	-1.8	1.3
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	44,015	50,007	53,422	54,600	7.5	56,998	8.4	60,370	9.1	10.6
North Vancouver–Seymour	47,893	50,409	51,883	52,164	2.7	52,931	0.7	54,424	-1.6	4.3
Northland	21,483	23,936	22,925	23,881	-53.0	24,107	-54.1	24,710	-55.3	3.5
Parksville-Qualicum	33,454	43,817	48,440	53,318	5.0	57,378	9.2	63,024	13.9	18.2
Peace River	38,629	39,164	38,694	41,157	-19.0	40,771	-22.4	41,242	-25.4	0.2
Penticton	44,529	51,483	51,704	53,777	5.9	55,492	5.6	58,155	5.1	8.1
Port Coquitlam	37,482	46,682	51,262	52,692	3.8	56,452	7.4	61,245	10.7	16.2
Port Moody–Westwood	38,950	43,523	47,248	51,539	1.5	53,555	1.9	57,026	3.1	10.6
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	39,009	44,568	45,062	47,109	-7.2	48,533	-7.7	50,841	-8.1	7.9
Prince George	50,426	54,174	51,709	50,893	0.2	51,415	-2.2	52,185	-5.7	2.5
Richmond Centre	36,480	45,133	53,118	55,942	10.2	60,511	15.1	66,541	20.3	18.9
Richmond East	39,545	47,931	52,879	57,798	13.8	61,303	16.6	66,478	20.2	15.0
Richmond-Steveston	50,599	55,803	58,348	60,721	19.6	62,532	19.0	65,542	18.5	7.9
Saanich East	49,578	49,573	50,207	51,880	2.2	51,584	–1.9	52,202	-5.6	0.6
Saanich North and the Islands	46,400	50,856	52,671	55,201	8.7	56,603	7.7	59,132	6.9	7.1
Saanich West	46,370	52,140	53,494	56,548	11.4	58,196	10.7	61,041	10.4	7.9
Shuswap	40,675	49,582	50,784	53,658	5.7	56,263	7.0	59,980	8.4	11.8
Skeena-Stikine	41,591	43,929	41,078	38,199	-24.8	37,781	-28.1	37,212	-32.7	-2.6
Surrey-Cloverdale	29,767	32,812	39,257	50,875	0.2	52,917	0.7	57,402	3.8	12.8
Surrey-Fleetwood	24,758	34,961	44,431	51,985	2.4	57,225	8.9	64,337	16.3	23.8
Surrey–Green Timbers	33,301	40,402	46,815	51,142	0.7	54,570	3.8	59,255	7.1	15.9
Surrey-Guildford	33,694	42,466	48,716	51,801	2.0	55,714	6.0	60,669	9.7	17.1
Surrey-Newton	26,203	36,351	45,010	53,711	5.8	58,645	11.6	65,609	18.6	22.2

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Projection		2013 Projection		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
Surrey-Panorama	27,392	34,879	42,429	52,060	2.5	55,836	6.2	61,756	11.7	18.6
Surrey-Whalley	43,472	53,591	49,600	51,283	1.0	52,544	0.0	54,173	-2.1	5.6
Surrey–White Rock	43,280	46,593	50,103	51,128	0.7	52,570	0.0	54,661	-1.2	6.9
Vancouver-Fairview	43,894	47,004	50,904	52,020	2.4	53,055	0.9	54,403	-1.6	4.6
Vancouver–False Creek	17,340	24,312	33,285	43,568	-14.2	47,306	-10.0	52,858	-4.4	21.3
Vancouver-Fraserview	45,597	51,167	54,032	57,276	12.8	58,605	11.5	60,504	9.4	5.6
Vancouver-Hastings	52,949	55,035	56,125	55,595	9.5	55,430	5.4	55,256	-0.1	-0.6
Vancouver-Kensington	49,315	51,923	54,005	54,967	8.2	55,244	5.1	55,764	0.8	1.5
Vancouver-Kingsway	41,281	47,190	52,853	57,185	12.6	59,439	13.1	62,517	13.0	9.3
Vancouver-Langara	46,743	51,270	53,881	57,047	12.3	57,986	10.3	59,493	7.6	4.3
Vancouver–Mount Pleasant	49,164	52,188	52,592	52,628	3.6	52,595	0.1	52,596	-4.9	-0.1
Vancouver–Point Grey	42,808	48,287	50,653	54,823	8.0	56,007	6.5	57,885	4.7	5.6
Vancouver-Quilchena	51,547	54,081	54,117	56,409	11.1	55,993	6.5	55,961	1.2	-0.8
Vancouver–West End	37,110	39,776	42,345	48,725	-4.1	49,188	-6.4	50,738	-8.3	4.1
Vernon-Monashee	47,137	53,832	55,043	58,538	15.3	60,404	14.9	63,549	14.9	8.6
Victoria-Esquimalt	51,340	54,171	53,942	57,133	12.5	57,379	9.2	58,788	6.3	2.9
Victoria–Oak Bay	55,618	55,190	56,272	57,571	13.4	57,237	8.9	57,849	4.6	0.5
West Vancouver–Capilano	50,202	52,292	53,462	54,238	6.8	54,752	4.2	56,083	1.4	3.4
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	35,235	41,917	46,105	49,161	-3.2	52,018	-1.0	56,118	1.5	14.2
BC Total	3,282,061	3,724,500	3,907,738	4,113,487		4,257,965		4,480,198		8.9

Notes:
** Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*
All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix Q

1991–2013 Census Counts and Projections – Proposed BC-STV Electoral Districts – Sorted by Ascending 2006 Population

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Projection		2013 Projection		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
Northwest	69,700	72,958	66,847	61,334	-39.6	60,060	-42.9	58,330	-47.3	-4.9
Northeast	60,112	63,100	61,619	65,038	-36.0	64,878	-38.3	65,951	-40.4	1.4
North Central	129,082	140,616	136,173	130,507	-14.3	132,870	-15.7	135,926	-18.1	4.2
Columbia-Kootenay	138,965	150,948	148,209	144,827	-4.9	146,515	-7.1	149,202	-10.1	3.0
Okanagan-Boundary	116,976	137,195	141,704	148,679	-2.4	154,889	-1.8	164,102	-1.1	10.4
Cariboo-Thompson	170,259	190,354	189,649	189,128	-6.9	193,509	-8.0	199,932	-9.6	5.7
Tri-Cities	139,931	171,021	190,034	197,278	-2.9	210,842	0.3	228,682	3.4	15.9
North Island–South Coast	174,034	198,019	194,388	202,520	-0.3	206,931	-1.6	214,759	-2.9	6.0
Fraser Valley East	153,707	181,962	189,292	204,039	0.4	212,963	1.3	226,885	2.5	11.2
Surrey North	135,225	171,420	189,562	206,211	1.5	220,054	4.7	238,435	7.8	15.6
Surrey South	126,642	150,635	176,799	207,774	2.3	219,968	4.6	239,429	8.2	15.2
North Shore	177,345	194,625	204,872	210,163	3.5	216,699	3.1	226,995	2.6	8.0
Mid-Island	159,563	189,754	198,483	214,899	5.8	224,722	6.9	239,995	8.5	11.7
Okanagan-Shuswap	160,274	191,091	200,721	217,395	7.0	227,659	8.3	243,485	10.1	12.0
Fraser Valley West	178,637	213,467	237,362	255,668	0.7	271,147	3.2	293,575	6.2	14.8
Burnaby–New Westminster	202,443	228,559	248,610	261,348	2.9	272,458	3.7	289,069	4.5	10.6
Richmond Delta	216,058	244,797	261,774	271,863	7.1	283,020	7.7	299,209	8.2	10.1
Vancouver East	238,306	257,503	269,607	277,651	9.3	281,313	7.0	286,637	3.6	3.2
Vancouver West	239,442	264,730	285,185	312,592	2.6	319,534	1.3	331,338	-0.2	6.0
Capital Region	295,360	311,746	316,848	334,573	9.8	337,932	7.1	348,263	4.9	4.1
BC Total	3,282,061	3,724,500	3,907,738	4,113,487		4,257,965		4,480,198		8.9

Notes:

** Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix R

1991–2013 Census Counts And Projections – Proposed BC-STV Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically

Electoral District	1991	1996	2001	2006		2009 Projection		2013 Projection		2006–2013
	Historical Census Counts			Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Population	Deviation (%)*	Growth (%)
Burnaby–New Westminster	202,443	228,559	248,610	261,348	2.9	272,458	3.7	289,069	4.5	10.6
Capital Region	295,360	311,746	316,848	334,573	9.8	337,932	7.1	348,263	4.9	4.1
Cariboo-Thompson	170,259	190,354	189,649	189,128	-6.9	193,509	-8.0	199,932	-9.6	5.7
Columbia-Kootenay	138,965	150,948	148,209	144,827	-4.9	146,515	-7.1	149,202	-10.1	3.0
Fraser Valley East	153,707	181,962	189,292	204,039	0.4	212,963	1.3	226,885	2.5	11.2
Fraser Valley West	178,637	213,467	237,362	255,668	0.7	271,147	3.2	293,575	6.2	14.8
Mid-Island	159,563	189,754	198,483	214,899	5.8	224,722	6.9	239,995	8.5	11.7
North Central	129,082	140,616	136,173	130,507	-14.3	132,870	-15.7	135,926	-18.1	4.2
North Island–South Coast	174,034	198,019	194,388	202,520	-0.3	206,931	-1.6	214,759	-2.9	6.0
North Shore	177,345	194,625	204,872	210,163	3.5	216,699	3.1	226,995	2.6	8.0
Northeast	60,112	63,100	61,619	65,038	-36.0	64,878	-38.3	65,951	-40.4	1.4
Northwest	69,700	72,958	66,847	61,334	-39.6	60,060	-42.9	58,330	-47.3	-4.9
Okanagan-Boundary	116,976	137,195	141,704	148,679	-2.4	154,889	-1.8	164,102	-1.1	10.4
Okanagan-Shuswap	160,274	191,091	200,721	217,395	7.0	227,659	8.3	243,485	10.1	12.0
Richmond-Delta	216,058	244,797	261,774	271,863	7.1	283,020	7.7	299,209	8.2	10.1
Surrey North	135,225	171,420	189,562	206,211	1.5	220,054	4.7	238,435	7.8	15.6
Surrey South	126,642	150,635	176,799	207,774	2.3	219,968	4.6	239,429	8.2	15.2
Tri-Cities	139,931	171,021	190,034	197,278	-2.9	210,842	0.3	228,682	3.4	15.9
Vancouver East	238,306	257,503	269,607	277,651	9.3	281,313	7.0	286,637	3.6	3.2
Vancouver West	239,442	264,730	285,185	312,592	2.6	319,534	1.3	331,338	-0.2	6.0
BC Total	3,282,061	3,724,500	3,907,738	4,113,487		4,257,066		4,480,198		8.9

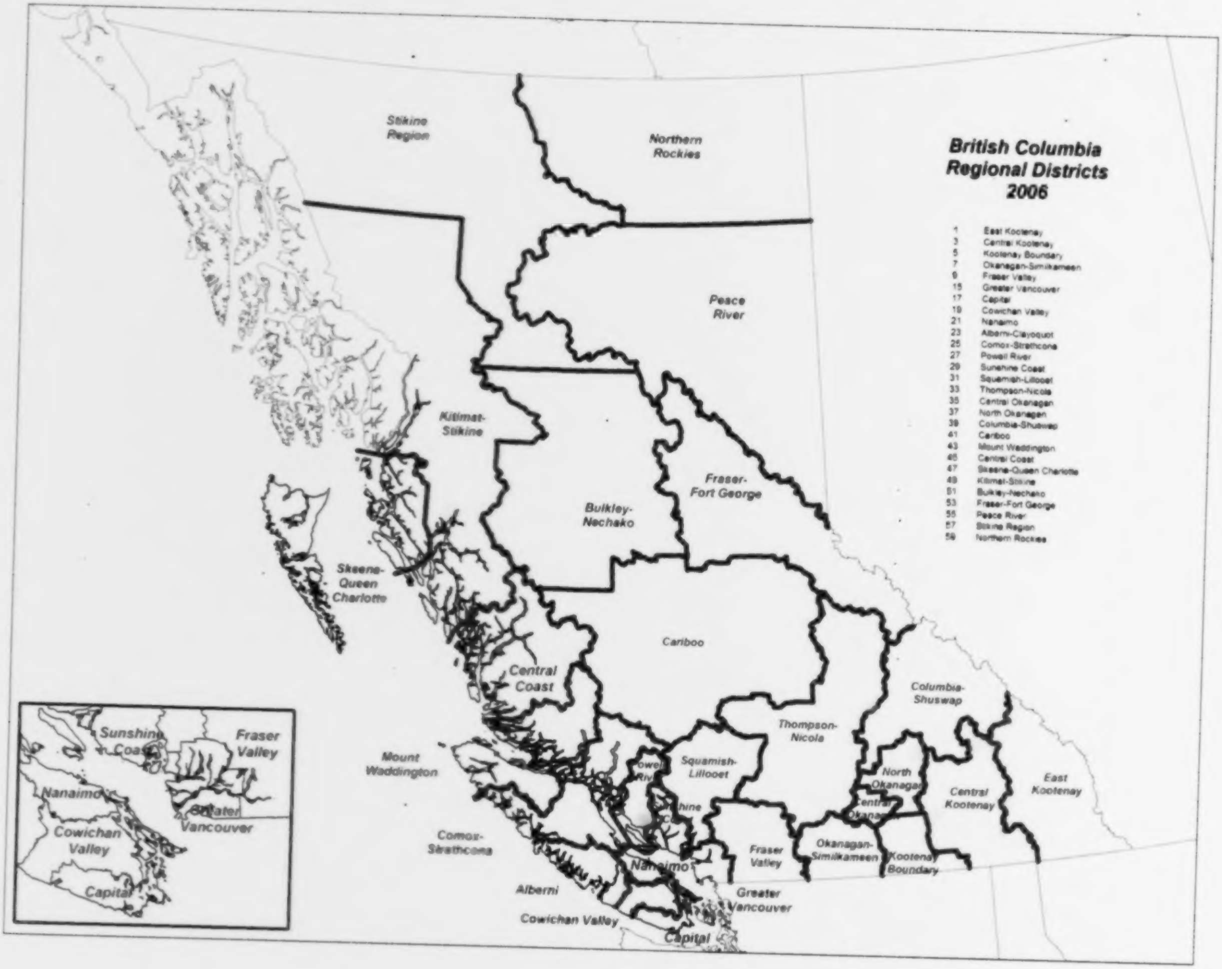
Notes:

** Deviation based on provincial electoral quotient of the same year.*

All data (except for areas) prepared by BC Stats, Service BC.

Appendix S

British Columbia Regional Districts, Municipalities and Census Subdivisions – 2006 Census Population


British Columbia
Regional Districts
2006
1 East Kootenay
3 Central Kootenay
5 Kootenay Boundary
7 Okanagan-Similkameen
9 Fraser Valley
15 Greater Vancouver
17 Capital
19 Cowichan Valley
21 Nanaimo
23 Alberni-Clayoquot
25 Comox-Strathcona
27 Powell River
29 Sunshine Coast
31 Squamish-Lillooet
33 Thompson-Nicola
35 Central Okanagan
37 North Okanagan
39 Columbia-Shuswap
41 Cariboo
43 Mount Waddington
45 Central Coast
47 Skeena-Queen Charlotte
49 Kitimat-Stikine
51 Bulkley-Nechako
53 Fraser-Fort George
55 Peace River
57 Stikine Region
59 Northern Rockies
Stikine Region
Northern Rockies
Peace River
Kitimat-Stikine
Bulkley-Nechako
Fraser-Fort George
Skeena-Queen Charlotte
Cariboo
Central Coast
Columbia-Shuswap
Thompson-Nicola
Mount Waddington
Squamish-Lillooet
North Okanagan
Central Okanagan
Central Kootenay
East Kootenay
Comox-Strathcona
Fraser Valley
Okanagan-Similkameen
Kootenay Boundary
Nanaimo
Alberni
Greater Vancouver
Cowichan Valley
Capital
Sunshine Coast
Fraser Valley
Nanaimo
Greater Vancouver
Cowichan Valley
Capital

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District #23

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5923008	Port Alberni	CY	17,548	
5923025	Tofino	DM	1,655	
5923019	Ucluelet	DM	1,487	
	Total Incorporated Population			20,690
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5923047	Alberni–Clayoquot A	RDA	303	
5923033	Alberni–Clayoquot B	RDA	476	
5923049	Alberni–Clayoquot C	RDA	401	
5923035	Alberni–Clayoquot D	RDA	2,027	
5923037	Alberni–Clayoquot E	RDA	2,822	
5923039	Alberni–Clayoquot F	RDA	1,882	
	Total RDA		7,911	
	Total Indian Reserves			**2,063**
	Total Unincorporated Population			**9,974**
	Total Population			**30,664**

Bulkley-Nechako Regional District #51

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5951022	Burns Lake	VL	2,107	
5951013	Fort St. James	DM	1,355	
5951009	Fraser Lake	VL	1,113	
5951032	Granisle	VL	364	
5951034	Houston	DM	3,163	
5951043	Smithers	T	5,217	
5951038	Telkwa	VL	1,295	
5951007	Vanderhoof	DM	4,064	
	Total Incorporated Population			**18,678**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5951051	Bulkley–Nechako A	RDA	5,290	
5951028	Bulkley–Nechako B	RDA	2,154	
5951015	Bulkley–Nechako C	RDA	1,355	
5951017	Bulkley–Nechako D	RDA	1,665	
5951031	Bulkley–Nechako E	RDA	1,788	
5951019	Bulkley–Nechako F	RDA	3,137	
5951053	Bulkley–Nechako G	RDA	1,059	
	Total RDA		16,448	
	Total Indian Reserves		3,117	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**19,565**
	Total Population			**38,243**

Capital Regional District #17

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5917015	Central Saanich	DM	15,745	
5917041	Colwood	CY	14,687	
5917040	Esquimalt	DM	16,840	
5917049	Highlands	DM	1,903	
5917044	Langford	CY	22,459	
5917042	Metchosin	DM	4,795	
5917005	North Saanich	DM	10,823	
5917030	Oak Bay	DM	17,908	
5917021	Saanich	DM	108,265	
5917010	Sidney	T	11,315	
5917052	Sooke	DM	9,704	
5917034	Victoria	CY	78,057	
5917047	View Royal	T	8,768	
	Total Incorporated Population			321,269
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5917027	Capital F	RDA	9,640	
5917029	Capital G	RDA	5,101	
5917054	Capital H (Part 1)	RDA	4,250	
5917056	Capital H (Part 2)	RDA	234	
	Total RDA		19,225	
	Total Indian Reserves		4,670	
	Total Unincorporated Population			23,895
	Total Population			**345,164**

Cariboo Regional District #41

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5941005	100 Mile House	DM	1,885	
5941013	Quesnel	CY	9,326	
5941025	Wells	DM	236	
5941009	Williams Lake	CY	10,744	
	Total Incorporated Population			**22,191**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5941019	Cariboo A	RDA	5,859	
5941021	Cariboo B	RDA	3,858	
5941026	Cariboo C	RDA	1,164	
5941010	Cariboo D	RDA	3,073	
5941012	Cariboo E	RDA	4,336	
5941014	Cariboo F	RDA	4,384	
5941015	Cariboo G	RDA	4,974	
5941016	Cariboo H	RDA	1,744	
5941027	Cariboo I	RDA	1,661	
5941039	Cariboo J	RDA	808	
5941041	Cariboo K	RDA	552	
5941017	Cariboo L	RDA	4,316	
	Total RDA		36,729	
	Total Indian Reserves		3,270	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**39,999**
	Total Population			**62,190**

Central Coast Regional District #45

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
	Total Incorporated Population			**0**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5945006	Central Coast A	RDA	138	
5945010	Central Coast C	RDA	556	
5945012	Central Coast D	RDA	421	
5945014	Central Coast E	RDA	135	
	Total RDA		1,250	
	Total Indian Reserves		1,939	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**3,189**
	Total Population			**3,189**

Central Kootenay Regional District #3

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5903045	Castlegar	C	7,259	
5903004	Creston	T	4,826	
5903023	Kaslo	VL	1,072	
5903050	Nakusp	VL	1,524	
5903015	Nelson	C	9,258	
5903032	New Denver	VL	512	
5903011	Salmo	VL	1,007	
5903027	Silverton	VL	185	
5903019	Slocan	VL	314	
	Total Incorporated Population			25,957
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5903010	Central Kootenay A	RDA	2,041	
5903013	Central Kootenay B	RDA	4,575	
5903017	Central Kootenay C	RDA	1,284	
5903039	Central Kootenay D	RDA	1,525	
5903041	Central Kootenay E	RDA	3,716	
5903043	Central Kootenay F	RDA	3,730	
5903047	Central Kootenay G	RDA	1,605	
5903052	Central Kootenay H	RDA	4,319	
5903056	Central Kootenay I	RDA	2,415	
5903058	Central Kootenay J	RDA	2,792	
5903060	Central Kootenay K	RDA	1,800	
	Total RDA		29,802	
	Total Indian Reserves		124	
	Total Unincorporated Population			29,926
	Total Population			55,883

Central Okanagan Regional District #35

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5935010	Kelowna	CY	106,707	
5935016	Lake Country	DM	9,606	
5935018	Peachland	DM	4,883	
	Total Incorporated Population			121,196
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5935012	Central Okanagan	RDA	3,978	
5935020	Central Okanagan J	RDA	28,972	
	Total RDA		32,950	
	Total Indian Reserves		8,130	
	Total Unincorporated Population			41,080
	Total Population			162,276

Columbia Shuswap Regional District #39

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5939007	Golden	T	3,811	
5939019	Revelstoke	CY	7,230	
5939032	Salmon Arm	CY	16,012	
5939045	Sicamous	DM	2,676	
	Total Incorporated Population			29,729
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5939011	Columbia-Shuswap A	RDA	3,097	
5939023	Columbia-Shuswap B	RDA	706	
5939037	Columbia-Shuswap C	RDA	7,695	
5939039	Columbia-Shuswap D	RDA	3,899	
5939043	Columbia-Shuswap E	RDA	1,528	
5939044	Columbia-Shuswap F	RDA	2,731	
	Total RDA		19,656	
	Total Indian Reserves		756	
	Total Unincorporated Population			20,412
	Total Population			50,141

Comox-Strathcona Regional District #25

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5925034	Campbell River	CY	29,572	
5925005	Comox	T	12,136	
5925010	Courtenay	CY	21,940	
5925014	Cumberland	VL	2,762	
5925025	Gold River	VL	1,362	
5925039	Sayward	VL	341	
5925030	Tahsis	VL	366	
5925029	Zeballos	VL	189	
	Total Incorporated Population			**68,668**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5925018	Comox-Strathcona A	RDA	4,885	
5925022	Comox-Strathcona B	RDA	7,219	
5925024	Comox-Strathcona C	RDA	7,441	
5925042	Comox-Strathcona D	RDA	4,984	
5925049	Comox-Strathcona G	RDA	74	
5925046	Comox-Strathcona H	RDA	755	
5925052	Comox-Strathcona I	RDA	1,042	
5925054	Comox-Strathcona J	RDA	2,472	
5925019	Comox-Strathcona K	RDA	2,169	
	Total RDA		31,041	
	Total Indian Reserves		1,886	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**32,92**
	Total Population			**101,595**

Cowichan Valley Regional District #19

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5919012	Duncan	CY	4,986	
5919021	Ladysmith	T	7,538	
5919016	Lake Cowichan	T	2,948	
5919008	North Cowichan	DM	27,557	
	Total Incorporated Population			**43,029**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5919043	Cowichan Valley A	RDA	4,073	
5919046	Cowichan Valley B	RDA	7,562	
5919049	Cowichan Valley C	RDA	4,530	
5919013	Cowichan Valley D	RDA	2,823	
5919051	Cowichan Valley E	RDA	3,878	

Cowichan Valley Regional District #19 (con't)

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5919033	Cowichan Valley F	RDA	1,744	
5919015	Cowichan Valley G	RDA	2,249	
5919017	Cowichan Valley H	RDA	2,274	
5919035	Cowichan Valley I	RDA	1,176	
	Total RDA		30,309	
	Total Indian Reserves		3,591	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**33,900**
	Total Population			**76,929**

East Kootenay Regional District #1

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5901043	Canal Flats	VL	700	
5901022	Cranbrook	CY	18,267	
5901003	Elkford	DM	2,463	
5901012	Fernie	CY	4,217	
5901039	Invermere	DM	3,002	
5901028	Kimberley	CY	6,139	
5901040	Radium Hot Springs	VL	735	
5901006	Sparwood	DM	3,618	
	Total Incorporated Population			**39,141**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5901017	East Kootenay A	RDA	1,873	
5901019	East Kootenay B	RDA	1,819	
5901035	East Kootenay C	RDA	5,866	
5901037	East Kootenay E	RDA	1,731	
5901046	East Kootenay F	RDA	2,939	
5901048	East Kootenay G	RDA	1,563	
	Total RDA		15,791	
	Total Indian Reserves		553	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**16,344**
	Total Population			**55,485**

Fraser Valley Regional District #9

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5909052	Abbotsford	CY	123,864	
5909020	Chilliwack	CY	69,217	
5909027	Harrison Hot Springs	VL	1,573	
5909009	Hope	DM	6,185	
5909032	Kent	DM	4,738	
5909056	Mission	DM	34,505	
	Total Incorporated Population			240,082
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5909014	Fraser Valley A	RDA	478	
5909016	Fraser Valley B	RDA	796	
5909048	Fraser Valley C	RDA	952	
5909034	Fraser Valley D	RDA	1,296	
5909036	Fraser Valley E	RDA	3,481	
5909060	Fraser Valley F	RDA	1,339	
5909062	Fraser Valley G	RDA	1,914	
5909064	Fraser Valley H	RDA	394	
	Total RDA		10,650	
	Total Indian Reserves		6,299	
	Total Unincorporated Population			16,949
	Total Population			257,031

Fraser–Fort George Regional District #53

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5953033	Mackenzie	DM	4,539	
5953012	McBride	VL	660	
5953023	Prince George	CY	70,981	
5953007	Valemount	VL	1,018	
	Total Incorporated Population			77,198
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5953038	Fraser–Fort George A	RDA	3,275	
5953042	Fraser–Fort George C	RDA	3,217	
5953044	Fraser–Fort George D	RDA	4,361	
5953046	Fraser–Fort George E	RDA	502	
5953048	Fraser–Fort George F	RDA	1,284	
5953050	Fraser–Fort George G	RDA	349	
5953019	Fraser–Fort George H	RDA	1,877	
	Total RDA		14,865	
	Total Indian Reserves		201	
	Total Unincorporated Population			15,066
	Total Population			92,264

Greater Vancouver Regional District #15

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5915038	Anmore	VL	1,785	
5915036	Belcarra	VL	676	
5915062	Bowen Island	IM	3,362	
5915025	Burnaby	CY	202,799	
5915034	Coquitlam	CY	114,565	
5915011	Delta	DM	96,723	
5915001	Langley	DM	93,726	
5915002	Langley	CY	23,606	
5915065	Lions Bay	VL	1,328	
5915075	Maple Ridge	DM	68,949	
5915029	New Westminster	CY	58,549	
5915046	North Vancouver	DM	82,562	
5915051	North Vancouver	CY	45,165	
5915070	Pitt Meadows	DM	15,623	
5915039	Port Coquitlam	CY	52,687	
5915043	Port Moody	CY	27,512	
5915015	Richmond	CY	174,461	
5915004	Surrey	CY	394,976	
5915022	Vancouver	CY	578,041	
5915055	West Vancouver	DM	42,131	
5915007	White Rock	CY	18,755	
	Total Incorporated Population			**2,097,981**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5915020	Greater Vancouver A	RDA	11,050	
	Total RDA		11,050	
	Total Indian Reserves		7,550	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**18,600**
	Total Population			**2,116,581**

Kitimat-Stikine Regional District #49

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5949022	Hazelton	VL	293	
5949005	Kitimat	DM	8,987	
5949024	New Hazelton	DM	627	
5949035	Nisga'a	NL	97	
5949032	Stewart	DM	496	
5949011	Terrace	CY	11,320	
	Total Incorporated Population			**21,820**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5949039	Kitimat–Stikine A	RDA	46	
5949028	Kitimat–Stikine B	RDA	1,618	
5949013	Kitimat–Stikine C (Part 1)	RDA	2,822	
5949020	Kitimat–Stikine C (Part 2)	RDA	5	
5949041	Kitimat–Stikine D	RDA	91	
5949018	Kitimat–Stikine E	RDA	4,002	
	Total RDA		8,584	
5949836	Aiyansh (Kitladamas) 1	NVL	0	
5949842	Gingolx	NVL	341	
5949838	Gitwinksihlkw	NVL	201	
5949840	Laxgalts'ap	NVL	474	
5949834	New Aiyansh	NVL	806	
	Total Nisga'a Village Lands		1,822	
	Total Indian Reserves		5,773	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**16,179**
	Total Population			**37,999**

Kootenay Boundary Regional District #5

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5905005	Fruitvale	VL	1,952	
5905032	Grand Forks	CY	4,036	
5905042	Greenwood	CY	625	
5905037	Midway	VL	621	
5905009	Montrose	VL	1,012	
5905023	Rossland	CY	3,278	
5905014	Trail	CY	7,237	
5905018	Warfield	VL	1,729	
	Total Incorporated Population			**20,490**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5905026	Kootenay Boundary A	RDA	1,989	
5905030	Kootenay Boundary B	RDA	1,418	
5905050	Kootenay Boundary C	RDA	1,435	
5905052	Kootenay Boundary D	RDA	3,176	
5905054	Kootenay Boundary E	RDA	2,234	
	Total RDA		10,252	
	Total Indian Reserves		0	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**10,252**
	Total Population			**30,742**

Mount Waddington Regional District #43

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5943008	Alert Bay	VL	556	
5943017	Port Alice	VL	821	
5943023	Port Hardy	DM	3,822	
5943012	Port McNeill	T	2,623	
	Total Incorporated Population			**7,822**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5943037	Mount Waddington A	RDA	1,051	
5943027	Mount Waddington B	RDA	150	
5943031	Mount Waddington C	RDA	736	
5943033	Mount Waddington D	RDA	304	
	Total RDA		2,241	
	Total Indian Reserves		1,588	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**3,829**
	Total Population			**11,651**

Nanaimo Regional District #21

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5921008	Lantzville	DM	3,661	
5921007	Nanaimo	CY	78,692	
5921018	Parksville	CY	10,993	
5921023	Qualicum Beach	T	8,502	
	Total Incorporated Population			**101,848**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5921010	Nanaimo A	RDA	6,751	
5921014	Nanaimo B	RDA	4,050	
5921016	Nanaimo C	RDA	2,508	
5921030	Nanaimo E	RDA	5,462	
5921032	Nanaimo F	RDA	6,680	
5921034	Nanaimo G	RDA	7,023	
5921036	Nanaimo H	RDA	3,474	
	Total RDA		35,948	
	Total Indian Reserves		835	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**36,783**
	Total Population			**138,631**

North Okanagan Regional District #37

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5937028	Armstrong	CY	4,241	
5937010	Coldstream	DM	9,471	
5937033	Enderby	CY	2,828	
5937005	Lumby	VL	1,634	
5937024	Spallumcheen	DM	4,960	
5937014	Vernon	CY	35,944	
	Total Incorporated Population			**59,078**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5937017	North Okanagan B	RDA	3,211	
5937021	North Okanagan C	RDA	3,947	
5937022	North Okanagan D	RDA	2,837	
5937023	North Okanagan E	RDA	934	
5937041	North Okanagan F	RDA	4,091	
	Total RDA		15,020	
	Total Indian Reserves		3,203	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**18,223**
	Total Population			**77,301**

Northern Rockies Regional District #59

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5959005	Fort Nelson	T	4,514	
	Total Incorporated Population			**4,514**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5959011	Northern Rockies A	RDA	1,079	
5959013	Northern Rockies B	RDA	109	
	Total RDA		1,188	
	Total Indian Reserves		445	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**1,633**
	Total Population			6,147

Okanagan–Similkameen Regional District #7

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5907009	Keremeos	VL	1,289	
5907014	Oliver	T	4,370	
5907005	Osoyoos	T	4,752	
5907041	Penticton	C	31,909	
5907024	Princeton	T	2,677	
5907035	Summerland	DM	10,828	
	Total Incorporated Population			**55,825**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5907022	Okanagan–Similkameen A	RDA	1,921	
5907026	Okanagan–Similkameen B	RDA	1,082	
5907028	Okanagan–Similkameen C	RDA	3,899	
5907047	Okanagan–Similkameen D	RDA	5,913	
5907049	Okanagan–Similkameen E	RDA	2,010	
5907051	Okanagan–Similkameen F	RDA	2,011	
5907053	Okanagan–Similkameen G	RDA	2,308	
5907055	Okanagan–Similkameen H	RDA	2,208	
	Total RDA		21,352	
	Total Indian Reserves		2,298	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**23,650**
	Total Population			79,475

Peace River Regional District #55

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5955010	Chetwynd	DM	2,633	
5955014	Dawson Creek	CY	10,994	
5955034	Fort St. John	CY	17,402	
5955025	Hudson's Hope	DM	1,012	
5955005	Pouce Coupé	VL	739	
5955030	Taylor	DM	1,384	
5955003	Tumbler Ridge	DM	2,454	
	Total Incorporated Population			**36,618**

Regional District Electoral Areas

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5955040	Peace River B	RDA	5,538	
5955042	Peace River C	RDA	6,350	
5955021	Peace River D	RDA	5,749	
5955023	Peace River E	RDA	3,031	
	Total RDA		20,668	
5955812	Ingenika Point	S-É	0	
	Total Indian Settlements		0	
	Total Indian Reserves		978	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**21,646**
	Total Population			**58,264**

Powell River Regional District #27

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5927008	Powell River	CY	12,957	
5927806	Sechelt (Part)	IGD	17	
	Total Incorporated Population			**12,974**

Regional District Electoral Areas

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5927010	Powell River A	RDA	914	
5927012	Powell River B	RDA	1,489	
5927016	Powell River C	RDA	2,074	
5927018	Powell River D	RDA	1,107	
5927020	Powell River E	RDA	359	
	Total RDA		5,943	
	Total Indian Reserves		682	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**6,625**
	Total Population			**19,599**

Skeena–Queen Charlotte Regional District #47

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5947023	Masset	VL	940	
5947030	Port Clements	VL	440	
5947007	Port Edward	DM	577	
5947012	Prince Rupert	CY	12,815	
5947026	Queen Charlotte	VL	948	
	Total Incorporated Population			15,720
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5947016	Skeena–Queen Charlotte A	RDA	52	
5947021	Skeena–Queen Charlotte C	RDA	37	
5947027	Skeena–Queen Charlotte D	RDA	607	
5947032	Skeena–Queen Charlotte E	RDA	402	
	Total RDA		1,098	
	Total Indian Reserves		2,846	
	Total Unincorporated Population			3,944
	Total Population			19,664

Squamish–Lillooet Regional District #31

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5931026	Lillooet	DM	2,324	
5931012	Pemberton	VL	2,192	
5931006	Squamish	DM	14,949	
5931020	Whistler	DM	9,248	
	Total Incorporated Population			28,713
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5931032	Squamish–Lillooet A	RDA	207	
5931034	Squamish–Lillooet B	RDA	575	
5931017	Squamish–Lillooet C	RDA	1,887	
5931021	Squamish–Lillooet D	RDA	839	
	Total RDA		3,508	
	Total Indian Reserves		3,004	
	Total Unincorporated Population			6,512
	Total Population			35,225

Stikine Regional District #57

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
	Total Incorporated Population			**0**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5957022	Stikine Region	RDA	574	
	Total RDA		574	
5957804	Good Hope Lake	S-É	32	
5957813	Lower Post	S-É	113	
	Total Indian Settlements		145	
	Total Indian Reserves		390	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**1,109**
	Total Population			**1,109**

Sunshine Coast Regional District #29

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5929005	Gibsons	T	4,182	
5929011	Sechelt	DM	8,454	
5929803	Sechelt (Part)	IGD	827	
	Total Incorporated Population			**13,463**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5929018	Sunshine Coast A	RDA	2,624	
5929022	Sunshine Coast B	RDA	2,558	
5929024	Sunshine Coast D	RDA	3,307	
5929026	Sunshine Coast E	RDA	3,552	
5929028	Sunshine Coast F	RDA	2,235	
	Total RDA		14,276	
	Total Indian Reserves		20	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**14,296**
	Total Population			**27,759**

Thompson-Nicola Regional District #33

SGC Code	Name	Type	2006 Census	
5933019	Ashcroft	VL	1,664	
5933024	Cache Creek	VL	1,037	
5933054	Chase	VL	2,409	
5933028	Clinton	VL	578	
5933042	Kamloops	CY	80,376	
5933035	Logan Lake	DM	2,162	
5933015	Lytton	VL	235	
5933006	Merritt	CY	6,998	
	Total Incorporated Population			**95,459**
	Regional District Electoral Areas			
5933068	Thompson-Nicola A	RDA	3,897	
5933070	Thompson-Nicola B	RDA	269	
5933032	Thompson-Nicola E	RDA	1,404	
5933037	Thompson-Nicola I	RDA	1,320	
5933039	Thompson-Nicola J	RDA	1,609	
5933060	Thompson-Nicola L	RDA	2,981	
5933008	Thompson-Nicola M	RDA	1,797	
5933012	Thompson-Nicola N	RDA	839	
5933072	Thompson-Nicola O	RDA	2,978	
5933044	Thompson-Nicola P	RDA	4,081	
	Total RDA		21,175	
	Total Indian Reserves		5,652	
	Total Unincorporated Population			**26,827**
	Total Population			**122,286**

CSD Types

CY = City
VL = Village
DM = District Municipality
T = Town
IM = Island Municipality
RDA = Regional District Electoral Area
IGD = Indian Governmental District
NL = Nisga'a Land
NVL = Nisga'a Village
S-É = Indian Settlement

The SGC code provided in each table refers to the Standard Geographical Classification.

The SGC is Statistics Canada's official classification for three types of geographic areas:

- provinces and territories (first two digits);
- census divisions (digits 3 and 4, typically regional districts); and,
- census subdivisions (last 3 digits, typically municipalities and regional district electoral areas).

The SGC provides unique numeric identification codes.

In the example on the previous page:

- 59 refers to British Columbia;
- 33 refers to Tompson–Nicola Regional District, a census division (CD); and,
- 019 refers to Ashcroft, a municipality, a census subdivision (CSD).

Appendix T
British Columbia Municipal Census Populations – 2006 to 1921– Sorted Alphabetically

		2006	2001	1996	1991	1986	1981	1976	1971	1966	1961	1956	1951	1941	1931	1921
100 Mile House		1,885	1,739	1,850	1,866	1,692	1,925	1,584	1,120	829	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abbotsford		123,864	115,463	105,403	18,864	14,496	12,745	9,507	706	792	888	830	785	562	510	—
Aennofield	[1]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	989	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alberni	[2]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,783	4,616	3,947	3,323	1,807	702	540
Alert Bay		556	583	612	628	679	626	605	760	795	825	695	638	—	—	—
Anmore		1,785	1,344	961	741	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Armstrong		4,241	4,256	3,906	3,200	2,706	2,683	2,260	1,648	1,426	1,288	1,197	1,126	977	989	983
Ashcroft		1,664	1,788	1,858	1,714	1,914	2,156	2,032	1,916	1,154	868	805	—	—	—	—
Belcarra		676	682	665	586	549	430	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bowen Island		3,362	2,957	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
Burnaby		202,799	193,954	179,209	158,858	145,161	136,494	131,599	125,660	112,036	100,157	83,745	58,376	30,328	25,564	12,883
Burns Lake		2,107	1,942	1,793	1,682	1,723	1,777	1,433	1,259	1,290	1,041	1,016	801	218	202	—
Cache Creek		1,037	1,056	1,115	1,007	1,147	1,308	1,050	1,013	674	386	—	—	—	—	—
Campbell River		29,572	28,456	28,851	21,175	16,986	15,832	12,072	10,000	7,825	3,737	3,069	1,986	—	—	—
Canal Flats		700	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Castlegar		7,259	7,002	7,027	6,579	6,385	6,902	6,255	3,072	3,440	2,253	1,705	1,329	—	—	—
Central Saanich		15,745	15,348	14,611	13,684	11,475	9,890	7,413	5,136	3,640	2,952	2,477	2,069	—	—	—
Chapman Camp	[3]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	664	649	567	588	513	—	—
Chase		2,409	2,460	2,460	2,083	1,933	1,777	1,425	1,212	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chetwynd		2,633	2,591	2,980	2,843	2,774	2,553	1,487	1,260	1,368	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilliwack		69,217	62,927	60,186	49,531	41,337	40,642	8,634	9,135	8,681	8,259	7,297	5,663	3,675	2,461	1,767
Chilliwhack	[4]	—	—	—	—	—	—	28,421	23,739	20,070	18,296	16,350	13,677	7,787	5,802	3,161
Clinton		578	621	729	662	754	804	808	905	983	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coldstream		9,471	9,106	8,975	7,999	6,872	6,450	4,995	3,602	2,660	2,161	1,613	1,402	867	867	711
Colwood		14,687	13,745	13,848	13,468	11,546	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Comox		12,136	11,172	11,069	8,253	6,873	6,607	5,359	3,980	2,671	1,756	1,151	714	—	—	—
Coquitlam		114,565	112,890	101,820	84,021	69,291	61,077	55,464	53,073	40,916	29,053	20,800	15,697	7,949	4,871	2,374
Courtenay		21,940	18,304	17,335	11,652	9,631	8,992	7,733	7,152	4,913	3,485	3,025	2,553	1,737	1,219	810
Cranberry Lake	[5]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,350	—	—	—
Cranbrook		18,267	18,476	18,131	16,447	15,893	15,915	13,510	12,000	7,849	5,549	4,562	3,621	2,568	3,067	2,725
Creston		4,826	4,795	4,816	4,205	4,098	4,190	3,552	3,204	2,920	2,460	1,844	1,626	1,153	695	—
Cumberland		2,762	2,618	2,548	2,220	1,853	1,947	1,697	1,718	1,277	1,303	1,039	971	885	907	1,179
Dawson Creek		10,994	10,754	11,125	10,981	10,544	11,373	10,528	11,885	12,392	10,946	7,531	3,589	518	—	—
Delta		96,723	96,950	95,411	88,978	79,610	74,692	64,492	45,860	20,664	14,597	8,752	6,701	4,287	3,709	2,839

	2006	2001	1996	1991	1986	1981	1976	1971	1966	1961	1956	1951	1941	1931	1921
Dufferin [6]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	762	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Duncan	4,986	4,699	4,583	4,301	4,039	4,228	4,106	4,388	4,299	3,726	3,247	2,784	2,189	1,843	1,178
Elkford	2,463	2,589	2,729	2,846	3,187	3,126	1,873								
Enderby	2,828	2,818	2,754	2,128	1,714	1,816	1,482	1,158	1,114	1,075	965	877	538	555	783
Esquimalt	16,840	16,127	16,151	16,192	15,972	15,870	15,053	12,922	12,891	12,048	10,384	10,153	3,737	3,274	3,458
Fernie	4,217	4,611	4,877	5,012	5,188	5,444	4,608	4,422	2,715	2,661	2,808	2,551	2,545	2,732	2,802
Fort Nelson	4,514	4,188	4,401	3,804	3,729	3,724	2,916	2,289	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fort St. James	1,355	1,927	2,046	2,058	1,983	2,284	2,110	1,483	1,213	1,081	615	—	—	—	—
Fort St. John	17,402	16,034	15,021	14,156	13,355	13,891	8,947	8,264	6,749	3,619	1,908	884	—	—	—
Fraser Lake	1,113	1,268	1,344	1,302	1,182	1,543	1,430	1,292	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fraser Mills [7]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	157	164	165	216	369	552	616	600
Fruitvale	1,952	2,025	2,117	2,062	1,932	1,904	1,481	1,379	1,203	1,032	870	—	—	—	—
Gibsons	4,182	3,906	3,732	3,138	2,675	2,594	2,074	1,934	1,450	1,091	990	722	262	131	—
Glenmore [8]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,287	1,119	404	303	263
Gold River	1,362	1,359	2,041	2,166	1,879	2,225	1,942	1,896	598	—	—	—	—	—	—
Golden	3,811	4,020	3,968	3,721	3,584	3,476	3,282	3,010	2,590	1,776	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Forks	4,036	4,054	3,994	3,610	3,282	3,486	3,096	3,173	2,556	2,347	1,995	1,646	1,259	1,298	1,469
Granisle	364	353	446	803	646	1,430	1,210	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greenwood	625	666	784	725	767	856	931	868	911	932	815	809	363	171	371
Guisachan [9]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	636	365	171	—	—	—	—	—
Harrison Hot Springs	1,573	1,343	898	655	652	569	572	598	486	475	613	477	—	—	—
Hazelton	293	345	347	339	436	393	371	351	403	410	279	—	—	—	—
Highlands	1,903	1,674	1,423	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hope	6,185	6,184	6,247	3,147	3,046	3,205	2,963	3,153	2,948	2,751	2,226	1,668	515	374	—
Houston	3,163	3,577	3,934	3,628	3,905	3,921	2,673	2,232	699	699	—	—	—	—	—
Hudson's Hope	1,012	1,039	1,122	985	1,158	1,365	1,330	1,741	3,068	—	—	—	—	—	—
Invermere	3,002	2,858	2,687	2,207	1,998	1,969	1,194	1,065	1,022	744	543	418	—	—	—
Kamloops	80,376	77,281	76,394	67,057	61,773	64,048	58,311	26,168	10,759	10,076	9,096	8,099	5,959	6,167	4,501
Kaslo	1,072	1,032	1,063	863	858	854	756	755	940	646	669	730	468	523	950
Kelowna	106,707	96,288	89,442	75,950	61,213	59,196	51,955	19,412	17,006	13,188	9,181	8,517	5,118	4,655	2,520
Kent	4,738	4,926	4,844	4,322	3,741	3,394	2,924	2,966	2,642	2,194	1,989	1,725	1,287	1,207	1,054
Keremeos	1,289	1,197	1,167	933	839	830	702	605	525	563	—	—	—	—	—
Kimberley	6,139	6,484	6,738	6,531	6,732	7,375	7,111	7,641	5,901	6,013	5,774	5,933	—	—	—
Kinnaird [10]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,846	2,869	2,123	1,305	947	—	—	—
Kitimat	8,987	10,285	11,136	11,305	11,196	12,814	11,956	11,803	9,792	8,217	9,676	—	—	—	—
Ladysmith	7,538	6,587	6,456	4,875	4,393	4,558	4,004	3,664	3,410	2,173	2,107	2,094	1,706	1,443	1,967
Lake Country	9,606	9,267	9,007	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lake Cowichan	2,948	2,827	2,856	2,241	2,170	2,391	2,369	2,364	2,353	2,149	1,949	1,628	—	—	—

	2006	2001	1996	1991	1986	1981	1976	1971	1966	1961	1956	1951	1941	1931	1921
Langford	22,459	18,840	17,484	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Langley C	23,606	23,643	22,523	19,765	16,557	15,124	10,123	4,684	2,800	2,365	2,131	—	—	—	—
Langley DM	93,726	86,896	80,179	66,040	53,434	44,617	36,659	21,936	15,767	14,585	12,441	12,267	7,769	5,537	4,881
Lantzville	3,661	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lillooet	2,324	2,741	1,988	1,782	1,758	1,725	2,218	1,514	1,379	1,304	1,083	469	—	—	—
Lions Bay	1,328	1,379	1,347	1,328	1,152	1,078	785	396	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Logan Lake	2,162	2,185	2,492	2,379	2,001	2,637	1,388	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lumby	1,634	1,618	1,689	1,265	1,181	1,266	1,081	940	879	842	786	—	—	—	—
Lytton	235	319	322	335	368	428	468	494	414	442	329	312	—	—	—
Mackenzie	4,539	5,206	5,997	5,796	5,542	5,890	5,338	2,332	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maple Ridge	68,949	63,169	56,173	48,422	36,023	32,232	29,462	24,476	19,287	16,748	12,502	9,891	6,476	4,932	3,772
Marysville [3]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,126	1,057	930	807	—	—	—
Masset	940	926	1,293	1,476	1,529	1,569	1,563	975	541	547	—	—	—	—	—
Matsqui [16]	—	—	—	68,064	51,449	42,001	31,178	23,554	16,161	14,293	11,521	10,308	5,601	3,835	3,763
McBride	660	711	740	580	592	641	619	658	652	590	582	489	237	—	—
Merritt	6,998	7,088	7,631	6,253	6,180	6,110	5,680	5,289	4,500	3,039	1,790	1,251	940	1,296	1,389
Metchosin	4,795	4,857	4,709	4,232	3,676	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Midway	621	638	686	611	640	633	589	502	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mission	34,505	31,272	30,519	26,202	21,985	20,056	14,997	10,220	5,351	5,324	4,711	4,467	2,718	2,279	3,025
Mission City [11]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,412	3,251	3,010	2,668	1,957	1,314	—
Montrose	1,012	1,067	1,137	1,197	1,183	1,229	1,197	1,137	1,079	862	—	—	—	—	—
Nakusp	1,524	1,698	1,736	1,374	1,410	1,495	1,416	1,163	1,282	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nanaimo	78,692	73,000	70,130	60,129	49,029	47,069	40,336	14,948	15,188	14,135	12,705	7,196	6,635	6,745	6,304
Natal [12]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	829	—	—	—	—	—
Nelson	9,258	9,298	9,585	8,760	8,113	9,143	9,235	9,400	9,504	7,074	7,226	6,772	5,912	5,992	5,230
New Denver	512	538	579	571	596	642	668	644	623	564	736	771	310	306	—
New Hazelton	627	750	822	786	796	712	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Westminster	58,549	54,656	49,350	43,585	39,972	38,550	38,393	42,835	38,013	33,654	31,665	28,639	21,967	17,524	14,495
North Cowichan	27,557	26,148	25,305	21,373	18,674	18,210	15,956	12,170	10,384	9,166	7,781	6,665	4,590	3,291	2,664
North Kamloops [6]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11,319	6,456	4,398	1,979	—	—	—
North Saanich	10,823	10,436	10,411	9,645	7,247	6,117	4,697	3,601	2,891	—	—	—	—	—	—
North Vancouver C	45,165	44,303	41,475	38,436	35,698	33,952	31,934	31,847	26,851	23,656	19,951	15,687	8,914	8,510	7,652
North Vancouver DM	82,562	82,310	80,418	75,157	68,241	65,367	63,471	57,861	48,124	38,971	26,252	14,469	5,931	4,788	2,950
Oak Bay	17,908	17,798	17,865	17,815	17,065	16,990	17,658	18,426	18,123	16,935	14,857	11,960	9,240	5,892	4,159
Oliver	4,370	4,224	4,285	3,743	1,963	1,893	1,641	1,615	1,563	1,774	1,147	1,000	—	—	—
Osoyoos	4,752	4,295	4,021	3,403	2,956	2,738	2,100	1,285	1,166	1,022	860	899	—	—	—
Parksville	10,993	10,323	9,472	7,306	5,828	5,216	3,187	2,169	1,426	1,183	1,112	882	—	—	—
Peachland	4,883	4,654	4,524	3,459	2,988	2,865	2,286	1,446	709	641	705	614	479	318	466

	2006	2001	1996	1991	1986	1981	1976	1971	1966	1961	1956	1951	1941	1931	1921
Pemberton	2,192	1,637	855	502	347	282	254	157	172	181	—	—	—	—	—
Penticton	31,909	30,985	30,987	27,258	23,588	23,181	21,344	18,146	15,330	13,859	11,894	10,548	5,777	4,640	3,979
Pitt Meadows	15,623	14,670	13,436	11,147	8,004	6,209	4,689	2,771	2,247	2,187	1,652	1,434	1,119	832	595
Point Grey [13]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13,736
Port Alberni	17,548	17,743	18,468	18,403	18,241	19,892	19,585	20,063	13,755	11,560	10,373	7,845	4,584	2,356	1,056
Port Alice	821	1,126	1,331	1,371	1,387	1,668	1,497	1,507	1,383	—	—	—	—	—	—
Port Clements	440	516	558	483	539	380	409	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Port Coquitlam	52,687	51,257	46,682	36,773	29,115	27,535	23,926	19,560	11,121	8,111	4,632	3,232	1,539	1,312	1,178
Port Edward	577	659	700	739	704	989	1,189	1,019	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Port Hardy	3,822	4,574	5,283	5,082	5,389	5,075	3,653	1,761	1,262	—	—	—	—	—	—
Port McNeill	2,623	2,821	2,925	2,641	2,559	2,474	1,480	934	437	—	—	—	—	—	—
Port Moody	27,512	23,816	20,847	17,712	15,754	14,917	11,649	10,778	7,021	4,789	2,713	2,246	1,512	1,260	1,030
Pouce Coupé	739	833	894	832	813	821	776	595	602	669	585	459	251	—	—
Powell River	12,957	12,983	13,131	12,991	12,440	13,423	13,694	13,726	12,578	10,748	9,969	—	—	—	—
Prince George	70,981	72,406	75,150	69,653	67,621	67,559	59,929	33,101	24,471	13,877	10,563	4,703	2,027	2,479	2,053
Prince Rupert	12,815	14,643	16,714	16,620	15,755	16,197	14,754	15,747	14,677	11,987	10,498	8,546	6,714	6,350	6,393
Princeton	2,677	2,610	2,826	2,796	2,910	3,051	3,132	2,601	2,151	2,163	2,245	—	—	—	—
Qualicum Beach	8,502	6,921	6,728	4,418	3,410	2,844	1,724	1,245	855	759	726	771	—	—	—
Queen Charlotte	948	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Quesnel	9,326	10,044	8,468	8,179	8,358	8,240	7,637	6,252	5,725	4,673	4,384	1,587	653	446	—
Radium Hot Springs	735	583	530	395	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Revelstoke	7,230	7,500	8,047	7,729	8,279	5,544	4,615	4,867	4,791	3,624	3,469	2,917	2,106	2,736	2,782
Richmond	174,461	164,345	148,867	126,624	108,492	96,154	80,034	62,121	50,460	43,323	25,978	19,186	10,370	8,182	4,825
Rossland	3,278	3,646	3,802	3,557	3,472	3,967	3,716	3,896	4,264	4,354	4,344	4,604	3,657	2,848	2,097
Saanich	108,265	103,654	101,388	95,577	82,940	78,710	73,383	65,040	58,845	48,876	38,358	28,481	18,173	12,968	10,534
Salmo	1,007	1,120	1,202	1,069	1,014	1,169	1,089	872	925	889	846	593	—	—	—
Salmon Arm C/VL [14]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,854	1,506	1,344	1,201	836	830	627
Salmon Arm DM	16,012	15,210	14,664	12,115	11,199	10,780	9,391	7,793	4,801	4,007	3,100	2,389	1,786	1,671	967
Sayward	341	379	440	406	417	482	383	465	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sechelt	8,454	7,775	7,343	6,123	1,224	1,096	822	590	468	488	439	—	—	—	—
Sicamous	2,676	2,720	2,827	2,501	—	—	—	—	—	—					
Sidney	11,315	10,929	10,701	10,082	8,982	7,946	6,732	4,868	3,165	1,558	1,371	—	—	—	—
Silverton	185	222	241	231	233	280	253	246	247	285	347	339	207	272	—
Slocan	314	336	335	263	294	351	351	346	357	293	326	374	183	202	286
Smithers	5,217	5,414	5,624	5,029	4,713	4,570	3,783	3,864	3,135	2,487	1,962	1,204	759	999	—
Sooke	9,704	8,735	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Fort George [15]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,282	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Vancouver [13]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32,267

		2006	2001	1996	1991	1986	1981	1976	1971	1966	1961	1956	1951	1941	1931	1921
Spallumcheen		4,960	5,134	5,322	4,719	4,310	4,213	3,378	2,302	2,076	2,123	1,937	1,936	1,805	1,629	523
Sparwood		3,618	3,812	3,982	4,211	4,540	4,157	4,050	2,990	1,928	—	—	—	—	—	—
Squamish		14,949	14,247	13,994	11,709	10,157	10,272	8,368	6,121	4,240	1,557	1,292	589	—	—	—
Stewart		496	661	858	1,151	858	1,456	1,382	1,357	522	327	435	283	446	610	—
Sumas	[16]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,773	5,445	5,145	4,505	4,015	2,473	1,812	2,299
Summerland		10,828	10,713	10,584	9,253	7,755	7,473	6,724	5,551	4,585	4,307	3,893	3,567	2,054	1,791	1,892
Surrey		394,976	347,825	304,477	245,173	181,447	147,138	116,497	98,601	81,826	70,838	49,366	33,670	14,840	8,388	5,814
Tadanac	[17]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	367	347	325	479	510	464	292
Tahsis		366	600	940	1,053	1,445	1,739	1,663	1,351	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Taylor		1,384	1,143	1,031	821	711	966	649	605	595	438	—	—	—	—	—
Telkwa		1,295	1,371	1,194	959	863	840	691	712	668	576	580	—	—	—	—
Terrace		11,320	12,109	12,779	11,433	10,532	10,914	10,251	9,991	8,637	5,940	1,473	961	355	352	—
Tofino		1,655	1,466	1,170	1,103	940	705	612	461	477	440	389	302	246	—	—
Trail		7,237	7,575	7,696	7,919	7,948	9,599	9,976	11,149	11,600	11,580	11,395	11,430	9,392	7,573	3,020
Tumbler Ridge		2,454	1,851	3,775	4,650	4,387	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ucluelet		1,487	1,559	1,658	1,595	1,512	1,593	1,180	1,018	1,054	782	520	—	—	—	—
Valemount		1,018	1,195	1,303	1,128	1,161	1,130	878	693	656	—	—	—	—	—	—
Valleyview	[6]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,787	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vancouver		578,041	545,671	514,008	471,844	431,147	414,281	410,188	426,256	410,375	384,522	365,844	344,833	275,353	246,593	117,217
Vanderhoof		4,064	4,390	4,401	4,023	3,505	2,323	1,990	1,653	1,507	1,460	1,085	644	350	305	—
Vernon		35,944	33,494	31,817	23,514	20,241	19,987	17,546	13,283	11,423	10,250	8,998	7,822	5,209	3,937	3,685
Victoria		78,057	74,125	73,504	71,228	66,303	64,379	62,551	61,761	57,453	54,941	54,584	51,331	44,068	39,082	38,727
View Royal		8,768	7,271	6,441	5,925	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Warfield		1,729	1,739	1,788	1,814	1,840	1,969	1,957	2,132	2,255	2,212	2,051	—	—	—	—
Wells		236	235	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Vancouver		42,131	41,421	40,882	38,783	36,266	35,728	37,144	36,440	31,987	25,454	19,197	13,990	7,669	4,786	2,434
Westview	[5]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,507	—	—	—
Whistler		9,248	8,896	7,172	4,459	2,002	1,365	531	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White Rock		18,755	18,250	17,210	16,314	14,387	13,550	12,497	10,349	7,787	6,453	—	—	—	—	—
Williams Lake		10,744	11,153	10,472	10,385	10,280	8,362	6,199	4,072	3,167	2,120	1,790	913	540	402	—
Zeballos		189	224	232	220	195	329	337	186	229	235	154	—	—	—	—

Note: All figures correspond to municipal boundaries as of the year stated

[1] Amalgamated with Fort St. John
[2] Amalgamated with Port Alberni
[3] Annexed to Kimberley
[4] Amalgamated with Chilliwack
[5] Amalgamated to form Powell River
[6] Amalgamated with Kamloops
[7] Amalgamated with Coquitlam
[8] Dissolved with part annexed to Kelowna, and part to unorganized
[9] Amalgamated with Kelowna
[10] Amalgamated with Castlegar
[11] Amalgamated with Mission
[12] Amagalmated to form Sparwood
[13] Annexed to Vancouver
[14] Amalgamated with Salmon Arm District
[15] Amalgamated with Prince George
[16] Amalgamated with Abbotsford
[17] Amalgamated with Trail

Source: Statistics Canada, prepared by BC Stats, March 2007. 1941, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006 Census of Canada

Commissioners

Mr. Justice Bruce I. Cohen
Chair

Stewart Ladyman

Harry Neufeld

Commission staff

Leo Perra
Executive Director

Wendy Stewart
Manager, Communications

Cathy Stooshnov
Manager, Finance and Administration

Ben Bisset
Communications Research Officer

Christine Cheung
Administrative Assistant

Scott Kingdon
Web Master

Amanda Link
Receptionist

Doug Roy
Communications Research Officer

Chet Veitch
Records Coordinator

Counsel

Keith R. Hamilton
Research Counsel

Brian J. Wallace, Q.C.
Commission Counsel

External technical staff

Daniel Hirner
Production Manager

Lalitha Jayaraman
Technical Analyst

Rob Oostlander
Technical Analyst

Randy Parker
Director of Geographic and Voter Data Services, Elections BC

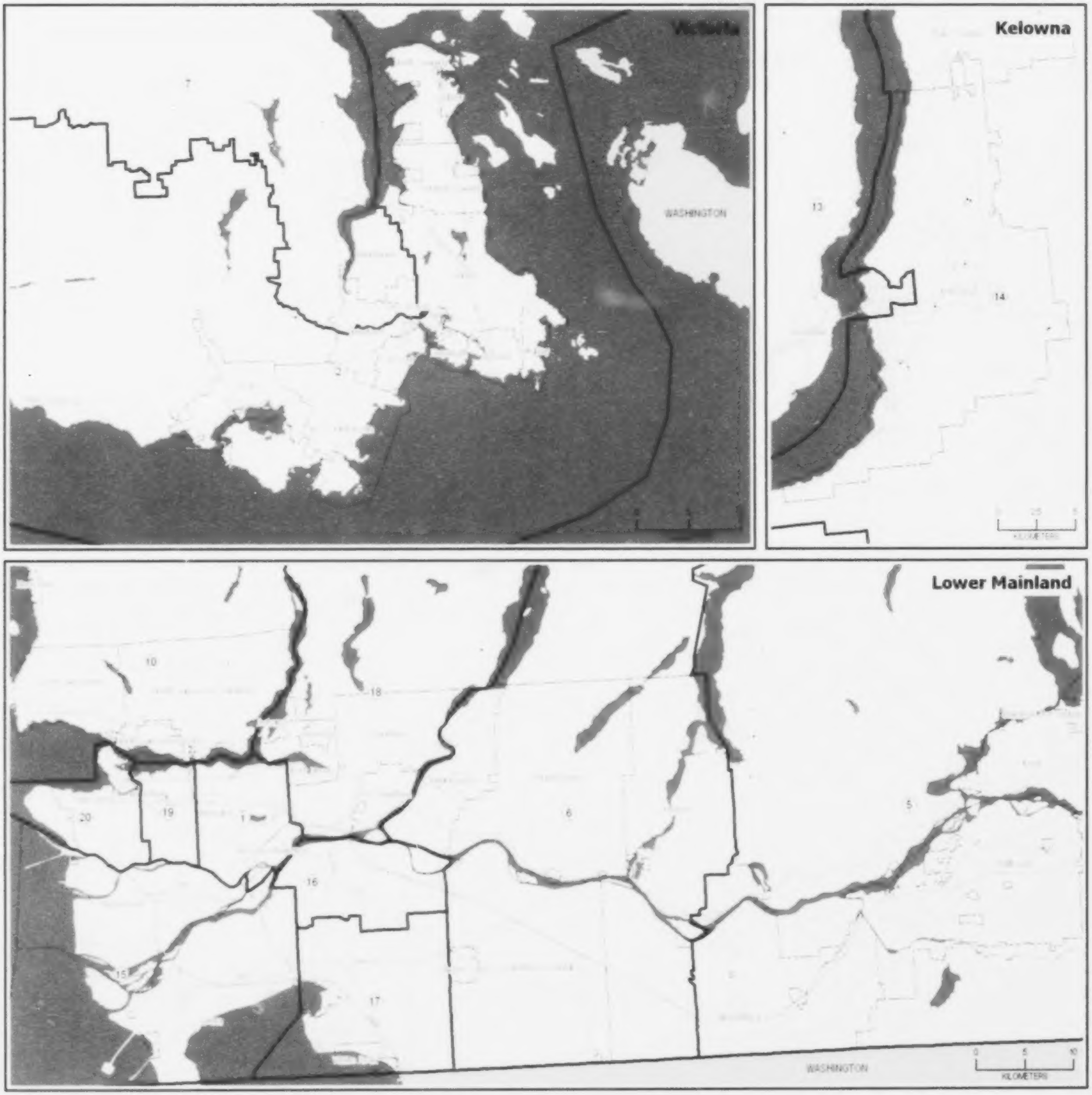
Suppliers

Advertising Design and Placement – *Redbird Communications*
Communications – *The Pace Group*
DVD Production – *Infinity Filmed Entertainment Group Ltd.*
Population Data Analysis – *BC Stats*
Report Design – *MPA Communications Design Inc.*
Report Layout – *Ideastream Design Inc.*
Report Proofreading – *Rhonda Ganz and Patricia Freeman*
Video Taping – *George Colmer*
Website development – *Agentic Communications*

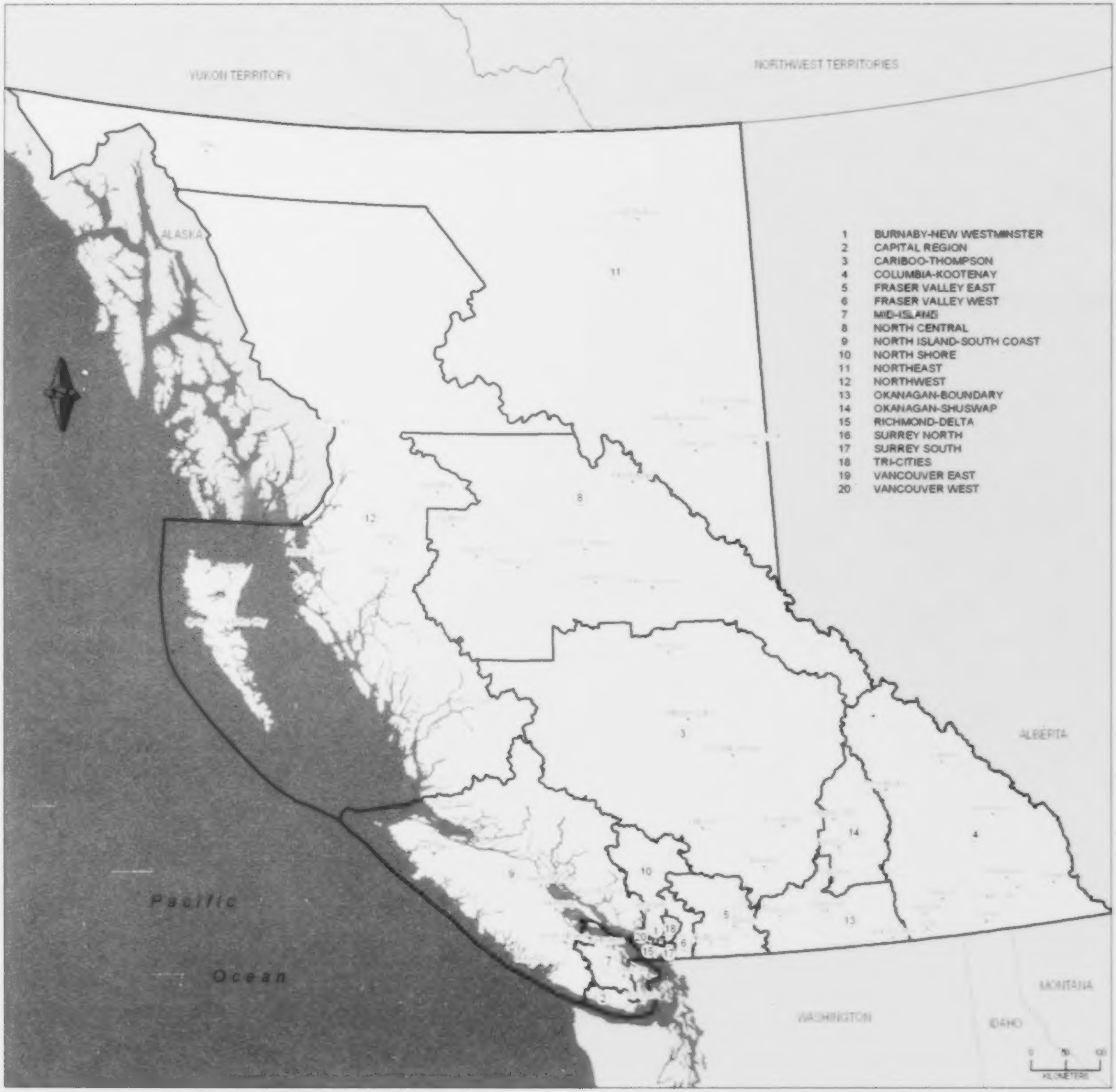
British Columbia Electoral
Boundaries Commission
PO Box 10073
Suite 601 – 700 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V7Y 1B6

Telephone: 604-660-1203
Telephone toll-free: 1-877-660-1203
Fax: 604-660-1207
Fax toll-free: 1-877-660-1207
Email: info@bc-ebc.ca
Website: www.bc-ebc.ca

Proposed BC-STV Boundaries


Victoria
7
2
WASHINGTON
Kelowna
13
14
0 2.5 5
KILOMETERS
Lower Mainland
10
18
20
19
1
6
5
16
15
17
WASHINGTON
0 5 10
KILOMETERS

Proposed BC-STV Boundaries


YUKON TERRITORY
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
ALASKA
ALBERTA
WASHINGTON
IDAHO
MONTANA
Pacific
Ocean
1 BURNABY-NEW WESTMINSTER
2 CAPITAL REGION
3 CARIBOO-THOMPSON
4 COLUMBIA-KOOTENAY
5 FRASER VALLEY EAST
6 FRASER VALLEY WEST
7 MID-ISLAND
8 NORTH CENTRAL
9 NORTH ISLAND-SOUTH COAST
10 NORTH SHORE
11 NORTHEAST
12 NORTHWEST
13 OKANAGAN-BOUNDARY
14 OKANAGAN-SHUSWAP
15 RICHMOND-DELTA
16 SURREY NORTH
17 SURREY SOUTH
18 TRI-CITIES
19 VANCOUVER EAST
20 VANCOUVER WEST
0 50 100
KILOMETERS

British Columbia
Electoral Boundaries Commission

PO Box 10073
Suite 601
700 West Georgia St.
Vancouver, BC V7Y 1B6
www.bc-ebc.ca